



Air and Space Museum to Undergo Major Construction

The first major construction project for the Air and Space Museum will start this summer.

The facts:

- This is the first major construction project for the building in Southwest Washington, DC, since its opening 41 years ago.
- Visitors will start seeing changes to the museum in summer 2018.
- The museum will remain open through the project by dividing the construction into two major phases.
- The project is scheduled to take seven

- years.
- All 23 galleries and presentation spaces will be transformed.
- The museum is raising \$250 million through private donations to fund the future galleries.
- The project also includes the complete re-facing of the exterior stone, replacement of outdated mechanical systems, and other improvements supported by federal funding.

By the numbers:

- 13,000 - stone slabs replaced
- 23: new galleries or presentation spaces

- \$250 million: fundraising goal
- 1,441: newly displayed artifacts
- 7: years scheduled for completion
- 0: days closed for construction

The museum has released artist renderings highlighting the exciting changes to come. These renderings (above) represent the first nine galleries scheduled for renovation. New galleries will be organized by theme, helping you find your favorite stories and make connections across eras.

All information and images courtesy of the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum.



Exploring the Planets



Destination Moon



One World Connected

PAUL "SOUTH" TAYLOR DESERVES HIS PRAISE



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Development Corporation**
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Washington, DC 20024
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tjones15@verizon.net

The Southwest Renaissance Development Corporation is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit corporation serving as the fiduciary agent of The Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund.

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A Promise to Give Back; A Promise Fulfilled

BY: DENA WALKER

Recognition comes in a lot of forms, mostly in words and many times by hand in the form of a card with kind and thoughtful words written within its folds. However, recognition delivered in the form of a large celebration for all the good works a person has performed for those in need is demonstrative of a truly exceptional person. The Southwest community is unique, not only for its almost small-town feel, like a city within a city, but also for the people who reside here. One such person resided in Southwest a few years ago. However, his presence in this community is everywhere that matters, so much so that it seems he never left. That exceptional person is Southwest's own Paul 'Big South' Taylor.

On Nov. 19, 2017 at Blind Whino, the Southwest community celebrated Taylor with a ceremony that included more than 100 of his closest friends. His two sisters, along with numerous well wishers, delivered tributes that were so heartfelt that at times there was not a dry eye in the room. Both current and former Southwest residents attended this event to honor Taylor because of his faithful and sincere service to the community.

Accolades for Taylor are so vast that it would occupy so much space in *The Southwester* to list them all that I would probably be required to pay for an ad. Taylor is so well known to the residents that he was unofficially named the "Mayor of Southwest." Taylor is more than a man offering encouraging words to those who reach out to him, he literally gives back to the communities in which he was reared, which included Greenleaf Gardens high rise and the Greenleaf Gardens Extension. Taylor attended neighborhood schools Syphax, Amidon-Bowen, Jefferson Junior High, and then Wilson High School in upper Northwest. Community is at the forefront of the work he has committed to do in order to keep the promise he made to himself more than years ago. That promise was to truly give back to his community, in action and deeds. As an employee of the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), at the King Greenleaf Recreation Center he is in his element. Taylor's promise took him one step further when he founded a nonprofit organization, the Southwest Comm-Unity Forum, which provides mentoring, educational, and recreational activities for Southwest's youth. Parents look to Taylor when seeking events or activities that aid in positive citizenship. Taylor goes the extra mile to ensure that children are able to participate in educational and physical fit-



ness programs, in fact, he actually goes to their homes and knocks on doors to make sure permission slips are signed and the child has the proper equipment or attire to participate. Whenever one sees Taylor in the neighborhood, everyone knows that he has something positive to bring, whether it's to sign up for a Thanksgiving basket, student book bag distribution, or an invitation to Big South's Toy Giveaway, which occurred this past holiday season.

“Taylor is so well known to the residents that he was unofficially named the “Mayor of Southwest.””

Since 2007, Taylor has organized the “Summer in Lansburgh Park,” which is an event designed to bring the entire Southwest community together for free food, carnival and pony rides, and music. During this annual event, the generation gap is blurred as people of all ages intermingle through historical discussions, dance, music, and board games. The event is the highlight of the summer, and many who have attended over the years affectionately call it Family Day. Taylor was instrumental in revitalizing this annual event because

for several years it did not occur. But thanks to his love for this community and the promise he made to himself, attendance at the summer festivities continues to grow, and attracted more than 1500 people this past August.

In 2010, Taylor was awarded a community grant that initiated the well-known Groups and Hoops program that provided workshops on life skills, resume writing, healthy living, and a late night basketball tournament.

In Sept. 2014, during the fourth annual Dr. McKnight amateur boxing event along with the DC Boxing & Wrestling Commission, Taylor was recognized for his outstanding commitment to DPR; most notably for his dedication and mentorship to motivate and uplift the youth in Southwest DC. In that same month, he was named Employee of the Year by DPR. The Goodman League honored Taylor with the Community Assist Award. In 2016, Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen recognized him for his outstanding public service at the 10th annual Brickie Awards. Taylor's most recent award was bestowed upon him by the Cafritz Foundation, which recognizes DC government employees that deliver above and beyond the call of duty.

Taylor is highly engaged in the civic matters that affect Southwest residents. He is an active member of the Near SE/SW Community Benefits Coordinating Council and the Wards 5 & 6 Youth DC Prevention Center. Taylor believes that it is vital to be the conduit for information and services that address the social and economic issues that are important to those who are underserved. For those reasons, Paul 'Big South' Taylor is worthy to be honored, especially by those he is so committed to serve. For that, we again say, thank you.



Tree Planting Ceremony at Carrollsburg

Carrollsburg, A Condominium is partnering with Casey Trees to plant urban native trees on the more-than-50-year-old property. The Carrollsburg complex of 425 units (387 in three high-rise buildings, plus 38 townhouses) sits on 11 acres of manicured lawns trimmed with beautiful trees and flowers, and is the largest original green space in the Southwest DC community. With all the development in Southwest, we want to grow and enhance our green space.

The Brickies Honor Ward 6 Community

On Dec. 6, 2017, Councilmember Charles Allen hosted the 11th Annual Ward 6 Brickie Awards and community celebration. The awards are an annual celebration of the people, places, and organizations that make the Ward 6 community great, and were the biggest yet. Begun 10 years ago by then-Ward 6 Councilmember Tommy Wells as the Livable Walkable Awards with engraved bricks as a special honor, the event was nicknamed “The Brickies” by Andrew Lightman.

“This is a big night out for Ward 6 each year—neighbors enjoying food, music, and having some fun as we hand out bricks to recognize some of the important contributions from neighbors, organizations, and businesses,” said Councilmember Allen. “Every year, I feel lucky to rec-

ognize some great folks and this year is no exception.”

The Brickies took place at the new home of the Capital Yacht Club at The Wharf (800 Wharf St. SW, Washington, DC, 20024). The event was open and free to all Ward 6 residents.

The award winners for the evening were:

- Andy Litsky** | 2017 Public Service Award
- Bailiwick Clothing** | 2017 Civic Pride Award
- East City Bookshop** | 2017 Business Awards
- John “PeterBug” Matthews** | 2017 Neighbor Award
- DC Diaper Bank** | 2017 Community Organization Award

Circulator Expansion

The DC Department of Transportation has announced that they will be formally proposing the Southwest expansion of the US-NY route of the Circulator. These are the potential changes.

Union Station – Navy Yard Metro (US-NY) Route – Realignment of route to serve Eastern Market Metro to L’Enfant Plaza Metro via Barracks Row, Navy Yard Metro, M Street SE/SW, and Waterfront Metro

Union Station – Navy Yard Metro (US-NY) Route – Regular Saturday service from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. and new Sunday service from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

You may have your opinion heard at the public hearing on Thursday, Jan. 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Miracle Theatre (535 8th St. SE, Washington, DC 20003).

SWBID Awarded DDOT Vision Zero Grant

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) announced the Fiscal Year 2018 Vision Zero Grant winners. Vision Zero is Mayor Muriel Bowser’s initiative, which aims to eliminate all traffic fatalities and serious injuries from DC streets by 2024.

The annual grant funding is available to local nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organizations and District government agencies to pilot new safety programs focused on critical Vision Zero strategies.

“DDOT is bringing in support from all sectors in pursuit of the District’s Vision Zero goal,” said DDOT acting Director Jeff Marootian. “As DDOT takes the lead in designing and operating a safe system of streets, our grant program expands the reach of community and government stakeholders who can enhance our efforts in education, data analysis, and enforcement.”

The six new programs will be included in the current round of grant funding, which will target various strategies in the Vision Zero Action Plan. One of the six is our very own Southwest Business Improvement District (SWBID). SWBID was awarded \$60,000.

SWBID will pilot and measure the effectiveness of placemaking and safety interventions in a rapidly growing DC neighborhood. Focusing on a mix of

placemaking and public art treatments for traffic calming and pedestrian wayfinding, SWBID will quickly pilot new countermeasures to be sited at locations that are emerging as conflict points as commercial development intensifies. SWBID will conduct a thorough evaluation of the effectiveness of each intervention.

This is the third consecutive fiscal year that the District has reserved a portion of revenue generated from automated traffic enforcement to pilot innovative transportation safety projects.

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Op-ed: Amidon-Bowen Is *the* School for *Your* Child

BY: BETSY WOLF, PRESIDENT,
AMIDON-BOWEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA

If you have a child entering pre-K next school year, you're probably all too familiar with the DC Public Schools (DCPS) school lottery drama. This is a peak time of year for researching school options, attending open houses, and discussing school lottery strategy with fellow parents—and for anxiety in general. How does the lottery work? What are my chances of getting into a “good” school? What happens if my child doesn't get into one?

But what is a good school? What does a good school look like or do differently than other schools? These are the questions that I wrestled with several years ago when I was deciding where to send my child for preschool in DC.

Flash forward three years later, I am now the PTA president of our Southwest neighborhood elementary school, Amidon-Bowen, where my son is now in kindergarten and thriving. I've learned a lot over the past few years. Let me share with you some reasons why I think Amidon-Bowen is a good school.

A good school is one with good teachers. Research shows that teachers matter a lot. In fact, your child's teacher is the single most important school-based resource impacting your child's learning. During our time at Amidon-Bowen, we have benefitted from our child being exposed to truly excellent teachers. My family does not take this blessing for



Amidon-Bowen students won third place in a city-wide poetry slam with their original poem.

granted—we are well aware that if our son attended another school, we may not necessarily get the same quality of teachers as we have experienced at Amidon-Bowen.

A good school is one that focuses on the whole child. During the preschool years, it is important that your child develops social-emotionally, and shows gains in empathy and self-regulation. At Amidon-Bowen, children participate in learning centers, which target children's social-emotional skills and allow them to learn through creative play. In addition, Amidon-Bowen provides a well-rounded education, and all children participate in one “special” activity daily. Specials

include music, art, physical education, library, Spanish, or STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). Each special is run by a different teacher in a different classroom in the school, so students have the opportunity to move around and be exposed to many different teachers and subjects.

A good school has a positive school climate. School climate is related to a host of children's academic and mental health outcomes and is influenced by caring teachers and paraprofessionals, peers, and the broader school environment and local community. If I had to describe my experiences at Amidon-Bowen in one word, that word would be community. Amidon-Bowen provides community not only for my son, but also for me and the rest of my family. It has been an unexpected joy to engage in my neighborhood school and build so many close relationships with fellow Southwest residents.

Yet despite all the good things happen-

ing at Amidon-Bowen, I sometimes feel an uphill battle in encouraging Southwest community members to rally around their neighborhood school. To put it simply, the issue for some prospective parents is that Amidon-Bowen serves too many low-income or low-achieving students. Many parents define a good school as one having high average student test scores. And in DC, schools with high test scores are mostly those serving wealthy students.

But your child *can* get a good education at Amidon-Bowen. Although the negative effects of poverty can manifest themselves in high-poverty schools, research shows that these effects decline in schools with even a modest amount of socio-economic integration. This is because in schools with socio-economic integration, there are more parents who advocate for school resources.

We have a chance here and now to make a difference in the lives of all Southwest children. It requires time and energy, but the work matters. We could really use your help. Do you want your child to attend a school with a certain resource? Then join us and advocate for that resource. In fact, you may actually spend less time advocating for that resource for Amidon-Bowen than commuting across the city on a daily basis for your child to attend an out-of-boundary school.

Ultimately, everyone has to ask themselves what it is that they want for their child. What do I want for my child? I want my child to make the world a better place. It is so clear to me that our world needs leaders with wisdom and empathy. How can my child gain wisdom and empathy if he only ever interacts with other children who look exactly like him? What better way to learn how to see people for who they are than to send him to a truly racial-ly and socio-economically diverse school?

See “Amidon-Bowen,” page 6



ST. DOMINIC CATHOLIC CHURCH

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WEEKDAY
Monday—Friday: 8:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m.
 (8:00 a.m. only on a Federal Holiday)
Saturday: 9:00 a.m.

WEEKEND
Saturday: 5:00 p.m. Vigil
Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

HOLYDAYS
 5:00 p.m. Vigil
 8:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 5:00 p.m.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Monday—Friday: 11:55 a.m.
Saturday: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: After the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND HOLY HOUR
Thursdays: 4:45 p.m.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP
Thursdays: 7 p.m. — Adoration;
 7:40 p.m. — Talk/Discussion

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
 (NOT a Holy Day of Obligation)
Monday, January 1: 10:30 a.m. Mass Only

RELIGIOUS MOVIE SEMINAR
Sundays, 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Meeting Room
 (Mid-block E St, and down the stairs)
January 7 ~ Polycarp (2015)
January 14 ~ The Seventh Seal (1957)
January 21 ~ Tsar (Царь) (2009)
January 28 ~ The Fighting 69th (1940)

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January 2 ~ (No Meeting)
January 9 ~ St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
January 16 ~ St. Katharine Drexel
January 23 ~ St. Junipero Serra
January 31 ~ Servant of God Isaac Hecker

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St. Dominic Church is a Christ-centered, Roman Catholic, and Dominican parish for the people of Southwest, DC and beyond. Our mission is to preach the Gospel and make disciples, glorify God through the Eucharist and the other Sacraments, build up the communion of the Church, and serve others through the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

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Service of Holy Communion

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Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

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Supported by SWBID and the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JANUARY

MON 1, 7 P.M.-8:30 P.M. Kadampa Meditation Center DC, Free Public Talk Choose Happiness. Discover about how to find inner peace through meditation at this World Peace Temple. Everyone is welcome. **1200 Canal St. SW, 202-430-6540.**

WED 3, 4:30 P.M. Lego Club. Children ages 4-12 are invited to design, create, and build structures with LEGO bricks. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library, 900 Wesley Place SW, 202-724-4752.

WED 3, 6:30 P.M. Aspiring Writers Circle. An opportunity to share your work with other writers. SW Library.

FRI 5, 6:30 P.M. Game Night, 1st Friday of every month. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 555 Water Street SW, 202-554-3222.

SAT 6, 8-10 A.M. January Spiritual Retreat led by Rev. Ruth Hamilton — A time of renewal and looking ahead in 2018. Westminster Presbyterian Church, **400 "I" (Eye) St. SW, 202-484-7700.**

SAT 6 2:00 P.M. Stained Glass Paper Art. Children ages 4-12 are invited to join us for a fun paper stained glass craft. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

SAT 6, 10:30 A.M.-12:00 noon. Komen Toastmasters, Looking to develop speaking and leadership skills? Ace a job interview? Ignite your career? Feel free to visit us and see our communications and leadership program at work Komen Toastmasters meets on the 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month. SW Library, basement.

SAT 6, 1-2:30 P.M. Yoga Nidra — Meditate, Chant, Breathe, and Relax deeply with Yoga Nidra. Move toward healing your Mind, Body and Spirit. Bring a mat and light covering. Invite your family and friends. \$10 donation suggested. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

SUN 7, 11 A.M. Worship with Bokamoso Youth Group from Winterveldt, South Africa bringing their songs, stories, and spirit of challenge, hope, and joy to the first communion service of 2018. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

MON 8, 7 P.M. A Community Discussion. The Trumpet of Conscience by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Copies of the book are available at the information desk. SW Library.

MON 8 7 P.M. ANC 6D Monthly Business Meeting. 1100 4th Street, SW, second floor.

TUES 9, 1:30 P.M. Literary Book Group. Stop by the library to get a copy of this month's title. SW Library.

WED 10 4:30 P.M. Create Club. Children ages 6-12 are invited to join us for arts & crafts activities. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

WED 10, 7 P.M. All the Way (film screening). This film, with a screenplay to playwright Robert Schenkkan, is about the life of Lyndon Baines Johnson, and is being presented in partnership with Arena Stage in conjunction with the upcoming production of the play's sequel, **The Great Society.** [Please note this event is being held at the SW Library.]

FRI 12, 7:30-9 PM. Kadampa Meditation Center DC, Friday Night Lecture – Buddhist Perspective on Life & Death. Learn about the Buddhist view on death and impermanence as a practical method to bring meaning to our life. By doing this we can refresh our focus and learn to make daily activities part of our spiritual practice. Price: \$12 (\$6 for students/seniors/unemployed). **1200 Canal St. SW, 202-430-6540.**

FRI 12, 8A.M. - 9:30 A.M. Councilmember Charles Allen, Ward 6 Office Hours, Starbucks inside the Waterfront Safeway. 1100 4th St SW.

SAT 13 3:00 P.M. Snowman Craft. Children ages 4-12 are invited to build paper snowmen. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

SAT 13, 7-9 P.M. Faith & Film presents "The Zookeeper's Wife"—Release: 2017; Rating: PG; Runtime: 126 mi. Set in 1939 Poland, this is the real-life story of Antonina Zabinski, a working wife and mother,

who became a hero to hundreds during World War II. Free to the public. Doors open at 6:30. Bring snacks to share. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

SUN 14, 9-10:30 A.M. 11 A.M. Sunday Worship with David Cole and Main Street Blues, paying tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., through powerful blues and praise. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

SUN 14, 2:30 P.M. P.A.L. (People Animals Love) Dog Visit. Children ages 4-12 are invited to read aloud to a P.A.L. dog. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

WED 17, 4:30 P.M. Wii Club. Children ages 4-12 are invited to play Wii games. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

WED 17, 12 Noon Southwest Waterfront AARP Chapter will hold its 25th Anniversary Year, Annual January Luncheon Business Meeting on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 12:00 noon. PROGRAM Part I- Annual Business Meeting. PROGRAM Part II- Community Conversations with: Guest Speaker: Laura Newland, Executive Director, District of Columbia Office on Aging. Guest Speaker: Julia Irving, Communications Specialist, Office of the Inspector General, Government of the District of Columbia. Current AARP members, prospective members, visitors, neighbors and guests are welcome. River Park Mutual Homes-South Common Room, 1311 Delaware Avenue SW, Washington, D. C. 20024. Lunch Available-COST: \$5.00. For further information, contact Chapter President Betty Jean Tolbert Jones, bettyjeantolbertjones@yahoo.com or 202-554-0901.

SAT 20, 10:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M. Komen Toastmasters, meets on the 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month. SW Library, basement.

SAT 20, 3:00 P.M. Wii Club. Children ages 6-12 are invited to join us to play Wii games. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

WED 24, 4:30 P.M. Karaoke Club. Children ages 6-12 and their families are invited to join us in karaoke singing. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

THURS 25, 6:45 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. **1D MPD building, 101 M Street SW.**

SAT 27, 1 P.M. Southwest Book Discussion. Copies of this month's selection, Richard Flanagan's novel **The Narrow Road to the Deep North**, are available at the information desk. SW Library.

SAT 27, 3:00 P.M. Lego Club. Children ages 4-12 are invited to design, create, and build structures with LEGO bricks. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

WED 31, 4:30 P.M. Build-It Studio. Children aged 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. SW Library.

WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

ADVICE FOR LIFE MEDITATION CLASS. Sundays, 10-11 A.M., Learn practical advice found in Buddha's teaching as methods for solving our daily problems. There is a separate class for kids ages 5 - 12 running at the same time. Everyone is welcome. \$12 per class (\$6 for students/seniors/unemployed). **Kadampa Meditation Center DC, 1200 Canal St. SW, 202-430-6540.**

ALZHEIMER'S ASSN CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP. 2nd Tuesdays of the month, 10:30-11:30 A.M. Free and open to the Public. Location: Faith Presbyterian Church. 4161 S. Capitol St SW.

ARTY AFTERNOON, Mondays 4:30 P.M. Join us in the Children's Room for fun arts and crafts. For children ages 4-12. Children under 9 must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

BABY/TODDLER STORY TIME, Mondays, 10:30 A.M. 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 Library.

BASKETBALL at King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N Street SW., Ages 6U Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5-6 P.M.; 8U Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7-8 P.M.; 10 U Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6-7 P.M.

BLUES MONDAYS, 6 - 9 P.M., Westminster Presbyterian Church. Various Blues musicians and singers featured each Monday. \$5. Food for sale. Schedule at <http://www.westminsterdc.org/blues.html>

BOOK CLUB, 7 P.M. every second Thursday at River Park. Book to read: TBA. Contact Gale Dunn Kaufmann 202-484-8432 or Email galekaufmann@verizon.net.

COLOR CLUB Mondays, 7:00 P.M. Children and their families are invited to join us for Color Club. We'll have special coloring sheets and supplies available. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Southwest Library.

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST, 9 - 11 A.M. Every 3rd Saturday, Rear entrance of Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th St. SW, across from SW Library. \$5.00 donation.

DIGITAL DROP-IN, 3:30 - 4:30 P.M. Tuesdays. Help using library services on your digital device (tablet, smartphone, reader). SW Library.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CLINIC, 1 - 4 P.M. Wednesdays. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

DPR YOUTH FOOTBALL SKILL TRAINING CAMP- ages 6-10; Tues. Wed and Fridays 5 - 7:30 P.M., Saturdays 9 - 11 A.M., King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N Street SW.

EVENING PRAYER, Tuesdays, 6:30 P.M., St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 555 Water Street SW

FEDERAL CITY RUNNERS TUESDAY NIGHT GROUP RUN, 6:30 P.M., Meet every Tuesday by Waterfront Metro exit (near Safeway). Run distance: 4-5 miles. Runners of all paces welcome! Run year-round in rain, snow, or shine. RSVP at www.meetup.com/fcrunners to receive run updates or just show up!

FRIDAY NIGHT FISHING, 5:30-8:30 P.M. Free event for kids and families, and fisher-folks young and old! **Where:** The docks at Diamond Teague Park (in SE across from the baseball stadium).

GAME CLUB, 4:00 P.M. Fridays. Children ages 6-12 are invited to join us to play board games. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

GIRL SCOUT TROOP 4298, 5:30-7 P.M. Wednesdays, begins its 11th year. Our multi-aged troop has girls from kindergarten to high school. Some of the activities we do are arts and crafts, camping, tea party, business 101, step show, career exploration, badges at the beach, movies, ice cream socials and so much more. If you are interested please call Monica at 202-468-9620 or Audrea Hennis, 202-744-9170. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church.

HAIR POP UP SHOP, 5:30 P.M. Tuesdays, Jan 2nd, and 16th. Using mannequins, learn to braid and create original hairstyles. Offering a braiding workshop designed specifically for teens who are interested in learning how to style hair into a braid that stands out from the crowd. Workshop will give participants an exciting hands-on one-hour experience with braiding. Each Participant will use a mannequin supplied. Contact: Ciera Carter, 202-724-4752. SW Library.

HAND DANCING, 1 - 3:00 P.M., Saturdays with Mr. Zeke. All ages welcome. King Greenleaf Recreation Center. 201 N Street SW. 202-645-7454.

JAZZ NIGHT IN SW, 6 - 9 P.M., Fridays, Westminster Presbyterian Church. Various Jazz musicians and singers featured each Friday. \$5. Food for sale. Schedule at www.westminsterdc.org/jazz.html

KADAMPA MEDITATION CENTER DC, Thursdays, 7-8:30 P.M., Drop in Meditation Class. Through training in meditation we can learn to control of our mind and overcome negative states of mind and find stillness within. Fee \$12 per class (\$6 for students/seniors/unemployed) **1200 Canal St. SW, 202-430-6540.**

KEYS TO FREEDOM NA Group, Tuesdays 12-1 P.M., St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. 555 Water St SW.

The KIWANIS CLUB OF SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT, 6:30 - 7:30 P.M., every first and third Monday. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th St SW.

MAKER CAMP. Wednesdays, 4:30 P.M. Ages 6-12 are invited to join us for hands-on, creative workshops from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. No registration necessary. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

NARFE, the National Association of Retired Federal Employees meets the fourth Thursday of the month from September through May from 1:15 until 2:30 in the library. Hope to see you there. SW Library.

PAJAMA STORY TIME, Thursdays, 6 P.M. Join us for an evening story time where pajamas are encouraged but not required. These evening programs are designed to delight children of all ages. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

PICKLE BALL, Tuesdays, 10:30A.M.-12:30P.M., King Greenleaf Recreation.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME, Wednesdays, 10:30 A.M. Join us for books, songs, rhymes, and fingerplays 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 3 to 5 and their caregivers. SW Library.

SEATED YOGA TWICE A WEEK at Westminster Presbyterian, MONDAYS from 11:00 A.M. - 12 noon and WEDNESDAYS from 4:00 - 5:00 P.M. 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. 400 I Street SW.

SENIOR BINGO, Mondays & Thursdays, 1 P.M.-3 P.M., King Greenleaf Recreation.

SOUTHWEST RENEWAL AA Group, Mondays 7:30 P.M. and Thursdays, 7:00 P.M. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church.

THE SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT AARP CHAPTER #4751, Monthly luncheon meetings are held every third Wednesday at noon. For further information, contact Chapter President Betty Jean Tolbert Jones, bettyjeantolbertjones@yahoo.com or 202-554-0901.

TEEN CLUB, Mondays 6:30-8 P.M., King Greenleaf Recreation.

TINY TOTS ART CLASS, Mondays, 10:30am-11:30am, ages 15 months-3 years, King Greenleaf Recreation.

TINY TOTS NEED RECREATION, Wednesdays, 10:30am-11:30am, King Greenleaf Recreation.

SW FREEWAY, NA, 7 - 8 P.M., Wednesdays, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 555 Water St. SW.

WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB, 7-9 P.M. First and Third Wednesday each month. Buy, trade and sell stamps. Refreshments. **Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th St. SW.**

ALL-LEVELS YOGA CLASS every Wednesday from 8-9:00 A.M. Bring a mat if you have one. No set charge; donations welcomed. For more information, call the instructor, Pamela Wilson, 202-746-6654 or email: wilsonpj108@verizon.net. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 555 Water Street, SW.

YOGA FOR ADULTS and TEENS, 6:30 P.M. Tuesdays. All levels welcome. Bring your own mat or use a library provided mat. SW Library.

YOGA IN THE WATER: ALL-LEVELS CLASS Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 - 10:30 A.M. and Sundays from 12:30 - 1:30 P.M. with Pamela Wilson at Waterside Fitness and Swim Club, 901 6th Street, SW. Try another approach to Yoga! \$10 for class/day pass. For more information, call Waterside Fitness and Swim Club, 202-488-3701.

YOUNG LADIES ON THE RISE, 5:30 - 7 P.M., Wednesdays, Michelle Edmonds, Ages 6-14. King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

ZUMBA, 7:30 P.M. Discontinued until further notice. SW Library.

View our on-line calendar at www.swna.org

Submit Calendar events to calendar@thesouthwester.com by the 15th of the month preceding the month it is scheduled.

AMIDON-BOWEN

Continued from p. 4

You will decide how you will define a good school. You will decide whether school segregation will remain the status quo in our neighborhood or whether we

will rally around and integrate our neighborhood school and improve outcomes for all Southwest children.

I encourage you to attend an open house at Amidon-Bowen or make an appointment with the school to observe a pre-K classroom. I believe you'll see a good school.

Dates for upcoming open houses and

winter play dates are (all will take place at the school):

Jan. 24: Open house from 9 - 10 a.m.

Feb. 3: Winter play date from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

March 3: Winter play date from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

April 4: Open house from 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Don't have kids but would like to get involved? We'd love to have you! There are a number of ways to get involved (see www.amidonbowen.org/support/). The Amidon-Bowen PTA meets monthly, generally on the first Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. in the school library. Check the calendar (www.amidonbowen.org/calendar/) for specific dates.

Camp Arena Stage to Hold Open House

BY: SHEILA WICKOUSKI

Put a bit of June in January! The Camp Arena Stage Open House, which will take place on Jan. 13, is just the ticket to get a taste of summer.

Camp Arena Stage Co-Director Rebecca Campana came here in 2004, from a tiny town near Buffalo, NY, for a four-month internship. She worked on the initial research about starting a camp, along with Anita Maynard-Losh, co-founder and director of community engagement.

This is the 14th summer of Camp Arena Stage and Campana has been there for all of them. As she says, "It's our teenager now!"

At Camp Arena Stage, each camper creates a schedule of five daily activities. At the Open House, campers-to-be can sample many of these workshops. (And while the older set is sampling, their younger siblings can participate in face painting and craft projects throughout the day.)

There are 75 possible choices at the camp. "There would be a mutiny on our hands" says Campana, "if we did not have classic activities every summer like hip-hop dance, sports, filmmaking, improvisation, solo voice, rock band, newspaper, and improvisation—but the final activity list is decided when the staff is hired."

The teachers are working artists, many



of whom have their own companies and have been nominated for Helen Hayes Awards. "All are great at working with kids," but, as Campana explained, sometimes they also have an unusual specialty to teach. "For example, our painting teacher also teaches Chinese brush painting and calligraphy. Because of instructors' specialties we've been able to offer silent movie, pop/rock voice, electronic dance music, clowning, mime, brand design, and weirdism."

One story that Rebecca shared—and what many campers have experienced—is how artists grow over time when they do not have the pressure to perform. She mentioned one young lady who started coming when she was nine years old. "She loved to sing but had terrible stage fright. For four years, she couldn't perform her solo, even though she wanted to badly

and her parents were in the audience. Then, when she was 14, she did it, and the expression on her face was triumphant! Her voice teacher and I stood in the back and cried. This young woman is applying to colleges now and sent me her college admissions essay. It was about her time at Camp Arena Stage."

So what are the campers like? Campana explained that there are about 175 kids in each session who come from all over the DMV area for a diverse community in every sense of the word.

At Camp Arena Stage, Campana says, everyone is an artist: "creative, sensitive, loud, introspective, caring, insightful, smart, and sometimes silly. Every day campers can share what they've been working on at camp, a talent from home, or an act they've made with a friend. They form the most supportive arts community I can imagine, because they all love art."

One camper said it best: "By far the most beautiful piece of art to come out of camp this year, in my opinion, was the masterpiece of a com-

munity we built together, painted with the people of all shapes, sizes, and personalities, all brought together in one place by one simple thing: a love of art."

The Camp Arena Stage Open House will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan 13. The event is free and children ages eight to 15 are welcome to participate in sample workshops and classes. No reservations are required.

Camp Arena Stage at Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School (1524 35th St. NW) will have two runs. There is a four-week intensive from June 25 to July 20, and a two-week session from July 23 to Aug. 3. The sessions run Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with early drop-off and extended days available for an additional fee.

Summer registration details are available at arenastage.org/education/camp-arena-stage/. There is also a need-based scholarship program, details for which can be found at www.arenastage.org/camp. Scholarship applications are due by March 19.



National Capital Planning Commission

NCPC Approves Eisenhower Memorial

At its Oct. 5 meeting the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) approved revised preliminary and final site and building plans for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial submitted by the National Park Service, on behalf of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission. In its approval, NCPC confirmed that the submission continues to satisfy the site selection design principles it adopted in 2006 and that the revised tapestry image preserves views to the Lyndon B. Johnson Building (headquarters of the U.S. Department of Education). They further concluded that the revised image does not alter the tapestry material, panel welds, or fabrication methods. This completes NCPC's review of the memorial that will honor Eisen-

hower's role as America's 34th president and as a military general.

The final submission contained four primary changes to the revised concept design reviewed by NCPC in February. The revised tapestry art now shows an abstract drawing of the Normandy cliffs with a focus on Point du Hoc. The refined design of the young Eisenhower statue was relocated from the promenade in front of the Johnson Building to the memorial's northwest entry plaza. An adjacent inscription wall will contain President Eisenhower's Abilene Homecoming Speech. Four trees previously proposed for removal are retained. The memorial will be located on a four-acre site between the Johnson Building and the National Air & Space Museum.



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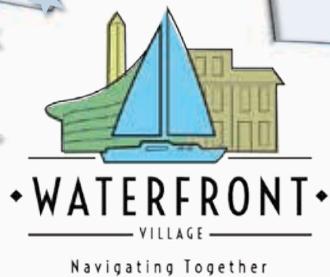
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4:30 - 6:30 PM HAPPY AT HOME EXPO with local providers of home health care, residential maintenance and modification, meal delivery, dental and medical care, and more.

6:30 - 8:00pm CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION to celebrate the first anniversary of our neighborhood-based membership organization offering supportive services to Southwest and Navy Yard residents who wish to age in place. Opening remarks by U.S. Representative Elinor Holmes Norton; Keynote Address by Monty Hoffman.

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Mrs. Thurgood “Cissy” Marshall Visits Plaque Honoring Husband

The opening of The Wharf has brought visitors from near and far. One such visitor was Mrs. Thurgood “Cissy” Marshall, who recently enjoyed a brief stroll along the Southwest waterfront after attending services at St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church. Marshall is a longtime, active St. Augustine’s parishioner.

Thelma D. Jones, a friend, intended to surprise Marshall by showing her the plaque on the waterfront that honors Justice Thurgood Marshall. However, they were unable to locate the Marshall plaque, which Jones had encountered during The Wharf’s grand opening in October. Challenged by the dreary weather and concerned about overtaxing Marshall, Jones sought the assistance of The Wharf’s security chief, Diane Groomes.

Groomes, honored to be in Marshall’s presence, said: “What an honor to meet the widow of such a historic icon from Southwest; the visit from Mrs. Marshall was such a treat for us at the District Wharf.” Groomes then led Marshall and Jones to the beautiful bronze plaque, which measures 12 inches by 12 inches. Embedded in the walkway near Del Mar and Kaliwa, the plaque citing says “Thurgood Marshall” in bold letters separated by a line with an inscription that says in smaller letters: “During his United States Supreme Court tenure, Thurgood Marshall resided in Southwest near the waterfront. He was the court’s first African American justice and the 96th person to hold this title.”

Amazed at seeing the plaque, Marshall jubilantly asked: “Who did this? Thelma did you arrange this?” Jones quickly admitted that she wasn’t responsible for the plaque but assured Marshall that she

continues to do her part in making certain that the people of Southwest—newcomers and longtime residents—are aware of Justice Marshall’s legacy.

Still quite surprised at seeing the plaque, Marshall said to Groomes: “Although words cannot adequately express my feeling and deep appreciation, please know that I shall be forever grateful to everyone in our Southwest community for remembering Thurgood with a plaque and beautiful inscription embedded on the sidewalk of our newly restored Southwest waterfront. Again, my deepest appreciation and love.”

Justice Marshall and his family lived in Southwest for more than four years at Capitol Park IV Condominium at 64 G St. SW, where a commemorative plaque exists, and at Carrollsburg Condominium on 4th St. Marshall’s former G St. residence is also near a call box that was installed in his honor by the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly and St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church in 2009.

The excitement of Marshall’s historic visit drew a host of Wharf employees and visitors who were delighted to be in her presence.

While eagerly posing for pictures with Marshall, the staff and visitors shared how honored they were to meet her: “You’ve made my day,” said Talaya Esquilin, command center operator for The Wharf. “Meeting you Mrs. Marshall is overwhelming. Just to be in your presence is an awesome experience! This is an important bit of Southwest history for all of us,” Esquilin said.

Thelma D. Jones, a friend of Mrs. Marshall and fellow St. Augustine’s parishioner, contributed to this article.

Gerald V. Miller, MSW., MDiv., ThD., PhD.



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