



The Southwester

Serving the Waterfront Communities of Southwest and Navy Yard

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Water feature in front of pergola.



Strict rules for the park.



The pergola with future shaded seating.

Waterfront Park Opens

Have you visited the newly opened Waterfront Park? Located at 6th and Water Streets SW, the new community park is unlike anything the neighborhood has seen in decades. The beautiful public space is the result of years of planning by Landscape Architecture Bureau (LAB; www.labindc.com), Hoffman-Madison, and community charrette planning sessions with 35 Southwest residents at the request of ANC6D.

On April 17, Joe Chambers of LAB and Elinor Bacon from Hoffman-Madison Waterfront walked a group of community leaders around the new park and described in detail what came to fruition.

The tranquil space (and silence buffer for the existing neighbors next to The Wharf) offers a number of nice features:



Waterfront Park charrette members on tour.

- Large trellis (with vines currently growing)
- Large green space
- Hills for a natural play space
- Benches (with movable furniture coming soon)
- Interactive water feature
- Native plants
- ADA-compliant ramps
- Bocce courts
- Views toward Hains Point and the Washington Channel
- Walking paths

The fences are down and the park is open for everyone to enjoy, but remember that the plants, vines, and grass are still growing. Please be mindful of this as we integrate this space into our neighborhood ahead of The Wharf opening this coming October.

How One SWBID Team Inspired a Homeless Outreach Plan

By: Candace Tyler

Every day, Southwest Business Improvement District (SWBID) employee Jerome “Oatmeal” McRae talks to the people who live on the street in Southwest DC. Oatmeal makes a point to ask them whether they are hungry, whether they need anything, and how they’re feeling. He listens and offers help when he can. “He has a gift,” says Andre Witt, his supervisor at SWBID. “They open up to him.” Empathy does that. Oatmeal was homeless himself for a brief time, he has slept outside and in shelters.

Why “Oatmeal”? That’s easy, his co-worker gave him the nickname in jest when he once ate two bowls at a team breakfast.



Jerome “Oatmeal” McRae

For a guy who doesn’t talk much, he always offers a gentle smile and a can-do attitude—and it shows.

A few months ago, Witt asked Oatmeal

See “Outreach,” page 9

The Incanto, one of two new apartment buildings available for rent at The Wharf.



The Wharf Offers Apartment Rental Opportunities for All Income Levels

There soon will be exciting residential rental opportunities at The Wharf. Leasing begins in late May and move-ins start in August for the two new apartment buildings, Incanto and The Channel.

SW/Near SE residents who desire to live at

The Wharf are encouraged to apply.

There will be a lottery held on JUNE 22 to select candidates for the Affordable and Workforce units. People interested in applying must sign up by JUNE 16.

See “The Wharf,” page 2



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Season Launch for Market SW and the Community Markets

Market SW and the Community Farmer's Market return to the Lot at 4th and M Streets SW on May 12 and 13, respectively.

Market SW is the District's only bimonthly night market and runs from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. each second and fourth Friday through October 27. The evening market features art, live music, food, and a beer garden. Market SW is moving into its third year and continues to attract families, young professionals, and community members from the DC Metropolitan area.

The Dreaming Out Loud Community Farmer's Market features produce by local growers and meat and eggs sourced in a sustainable way. During the Farmer's Market there's live music, performances, and activities for children. The farmer's market runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"We are excited about this market season," said Mike Berman, Market SW manager. "With all of the development going on in Southwest DC we think we're going to attract visitors who want to see what this part of the

city is all about."

Both markets attract hundreds of shoppers every year and this year is expected to more than prior years. The markets take place at the Lot at 4th and M Streets SW across the street from Waterfront Metro Station, which is on the green line. Parking is nearby and plentiful.

The farmer's market is produced by Dreaming Out Loud in partnership with Diverse Markets Management and supported by the Southwest BID and Waterfront Station.

THE WHARF

From p. 1

For those interested, go to wharfdc.com, click "Residences," then visit one or both buildings' websites (www.dcchannel.com and www.incantodc.com) and enter your contact information to register. You can also call (866) 339-9293 to register or get more information. The Wharf Apartment Rental Center opens in late May.

In Phase 1 of The Wharf there will be 649 total residences in two apartment buildings (501 at The Channel and 148 at Incanto), including 449 market-rate apartments (no income limits); 131 Affordable apartments for households earning 60% and 30% Area Median Income (AMI) or less (62 units at 30% AMI and 69 units at 60% AMI), and 69 Workforce apartments for households earning 100% or 120% AMI or less (46 at 100% AMI and 23 at 120% AMI).

Hoffman-Madison Waterfront, the developer of The Wharf, works diligently to ensure The Wharf is a place for everyone. Building an economically diverse community was a key part of the original Land Disposition Agreement with DC. "The District and Hoffman Madison Waterfront have worked collaboratively since the project's inception to assure that this remarkable development will be welcoming to DC residents of a variety of income levels, a community where they can live, work, and enjoy our beautiful waterfront," said Brian Kenner, deputy mayor for planning and economic development.

"The Wharf is a world-class waterfront community with new apartments appealing to a wide range of tastes and income levels," said Monty Hoffman, founder and CEO of PN Hoffman. "This is true waterfront living as all residents will have rental access to kayaks on the Recreation Pier, and a free water jitney to East Potomac Park."

As with all residences at The Wharf, each rental apartment building offers distinct features to appeal to a variety of preferences.

The Channel

The Channel is one of Washington's largest apartment buildings currently under construction and is uniquely positioned to be one of the District's most dynamic places to live. The waterfront residential building, located at 950 Maine Ave. SW, consists of two apartment towers with a total of 501 residences (studio, one-, and two-bedrooms). The building is designed by Perkins Eastman.

With an industrial design aesthetic made up of polished concrete, metal and reclaimed wood, with pops of color and art, residents will enjoy unique unit finishes and stunning views of monuments, urban theater, and water. The



The Channel, one of two new apartment buildings available for rent at The Wharf.

building offers unprecedented amenity spaces, including a one-acre outdoor green space on the sixth floor that offers an infinity pool with cabanas overlooking the waterfront, a dog run, community garden, bocce courts, grass lawn, fire pit, happy hour bar, and grilling stations. Other building amenities include a fully equipped fitness center with training rooms, library lounge, party room, and much more. The building also houses The Anthem, the neighborhood's cultural center, featuring an acoustically advanced concert hall to host marquee performances by internationally celebrated artists as well as intimate shows with local favorites, in addition to a great combination of restaurant and tavern offerings, including La Vie, Shake Shack, The Brighton, and Mi Vida. To receive updates, register at www.dcchannel.com.

Incanto

Incanto offers 148 sophisticated, modern apartments. Residents will enjoy the vibrant waterfront community of The Wharf which encompasses luxury community living in the heart of DC's newest intersection of music, shopping, and dining. Incanto offers a mix of studio, one-, and two-bedroom apartments designed by Gary Handel with ample living space. Amenities include a fitness center, resident lounge, and landscaped central courtyard with grills and fire-pit. Front desk concierge and on-site management staff will complement the building amenities package, creating a boutique resident experience. Incanto is also designed to meet the LEED Silver for New Construction certification. Incanto is located at 770 Maine Ave. and is adjacent to VIO, the 112-unit condominium building, with vibrant ground-floor retail and restaurants, including the lively Pearl Street. To receive updates, register at www.incantodc.com.

Both buildings are served and easily accessible by public transit including L'Enfant Plaza and Waterfront Metro Stations, multiple Capital Bikeshare stations, water taxi, and Wharf Shuttle routes. There will also be

limited secure vehicular and bicycle parking available in the below-grade garage. These two rental apartment complexes are managed by Bozzuto Properties.

"Both Incanto and The Channel represent the creative spirit that informs The Wharf's entire urban revitalization concept. These residences represent "best of class" living space consistent with the highest levels of sustainability and energy efficiency—along with luxury finishes, unmatched riverfront views, and optimal access to entertainment, dining, retail, and outdoor enjoyment spaces," said Amer Hammour, chairman of Madison Marquette.

"Mayor Bowser's top priority is producing and preserving more affordable housing across the District for our residents—in every part of the city," said Polly Donaldson, director of the District's Department of Housing and Community Development. "The Wharf is a shining example of how—by leveraging the value of public lands—we now have a project that will provide safe and affordable housing in a transforming community, near retail and other amenities."

DC residents with Housing Choice Vouchers are welcome. Ronald McCoy, director of the Housing Choice Voucher Program at the DC Housing Authority (DCHA), said, "The District of Columbia Housing Authority has been working for years to give our voucher participants greater choice to move throughout the city. The Wharf presents a fantastic opportunity for all of our voucher clients, in particular those voucher clients who participate in the authority's newest program—HALO (Housing Affordable Living Options)—to be able to have a new home in a vibrant community full of amenities. Voucher holders who participate in DCHA's HALO program receive housing counseling and search assistance to find housing in lower poverty neighborhoods."

More information about The Wharf is available at www.wharfdc.com.

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SW Garden Kicks Off New Season

What a kick-off we had last month to begin our gardening year! Shout out to Southwest (and its honorary visiting residents), way to represent! If the kick-off is a sign of things to come, we're about to have our best year yet!

More than 50 people stopped by to contribute their talents, time, energy, green thumbs, sweat, and coolness. Even Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen made an appearance with his daughter, during which they contributed some garden artwork. We planted the first seeds of the year, cleaned up, weeded, and created a new SW love garden! A special shout-out to Sweetgreen (Navy Yard location) for donating delicious salads to fuel our work. All in all, it was great to see so many people work with one another and nature. A valuable reminder of how transformative community work can be!

Now that the kick-off is behind us, our regular work days have begun. Work days will be every Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. and Sundays 4-6 p.m.. You can consult our garden calendar on our website (swgardens.org/ calendar) for the schedule if you ever forget. As a head's up, work days will be canceled when there's inclement weather.

Over the next couple weeks, we'll be planting and maintaining our new SW garden, as well as weeding, watering, creating artwork, and composting!

Speaking of composting, our new 365/24/7 compost system is officially operational. You're welcome to drop off your food scraps during work days, but if those times are inconvenient, you can leave them in our new compost bin that is located outside the garden. To learn the proper protocol, please reach out to us via email: swgardensdc@gmail.com. We're going to start by prohibiting meat and "compostable" utensils. The meat may attract some unwanted visitors, and the limited size of our compost pile will prevent us from generating enough heat to break down the compostable materials. If you're interested in learning how the magic of composting happens, just drop by during any of our work days.

Hope to see you in the garden!



Councilmember Charles Allen's Statement on Rep. Jason Chaffetz Not Seeking Re-election

In response to U.S. Representative Jason Chaffetz's (R-UT) announcement that he will not seek re-election, Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen issued the following statement:

"This is great news for everyone in DC who was frustrated with Rep. Jason Chaffetz's attempts to block and change local DC laws from his perch in Congress. But it doesn't change the bigger picture—another congressional representative from somewhere else in America will assume the committee chair and have the same ability to interfere with locally passed laws by locally elected representatives. DC residents will remain committed to stopping congressional meddling and are serious about saying Hands Off DC."



Charles Allen

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An Interview with Southwest's Own Joy Jones

By: Sheila Wickouski

Joy Jones is a native Washingtonian who currently plays the role of Beneatha Younger in Arena Stage's production of *A Raisin in the Sun*.

Q: Beneatha is a brilliant and complicated character. What is it like to play her?

A: It's a joy to play Beneatha. She is principled, intelligent, and judgmental but never purposefully cruel. She's very sure of herself—

except of course when she isn't—and I enjoy playing her contrasts and her growing sense of herself. The wonderful costumes of costume designer Harry Nadal also help me chart her journey towards knowledge and maturity.

Q: What was your first acting job in Washington DC?

A: My first acting job in DC was as a teenage performer with the DC youth ensemble, which had a summer theater program as part

of the summer youth employment program.

Q: What is your favorite thing about working professionally in the theater?

A: Opportunity to create stories collaboratively with other artist's stories that give audiences opportunities and provocations and entertainments to think about their own humanity and the humanity of others

Q: What advice would you give to young people who would like to make a career in theater?

A: Hmm, I would recommend several things: first, reading books about the business aspects of being the arts. For example, a career in theater is actually a sequence of many, many projects and the professional and financial uncertainty that comes from stringing together projects is not for everyone! Next, I would encourage people to make their own work—either by themselves or with a group—so that they aren't only relying on opportunities given to them by others. Last, I would tell them to practice articulating to family and friends why theater or other creative work is important to them. Our families and friends love us, they don't necessarily love our artistic pursuits or even understand them, but we can help our relationships by giving our loved ones a window into what we do and why.

Q: Growing up in DC, what do you think of the changes happening to the city?

A: As a native Washingtonian, who returned to DC from NYC several years ago and now lives in SW DC, I am mostly happy about the increase in population, development, and amenities here. But the rising cost of housing is a serious concern. Diversity isn't only about ethnicity it's about socioeconomics, too.



Joy Jones

Q: What is the next show we can see you in?

A: The next production I'm in will not be in the area, but in Fayetteville, Arkansas at TheatreSquared. The play is called *The Champion* and I will play singer-activist Nina Simone. The play is a world premiere by Amy Evans and the focus is on a true incident where Nina Simone rescued her band from an incident with police after a winter concert in 1962. Lorraine Hansberry and Nina Simone were friends and Lorraine Hansberry encouraged Nina Simone to use her public profile for activism. So it will be a wonderful next step giving voice to these two wonderful artists.

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Arena Stage Holds Four-Day Voices of Now Festival

Arena Stage's Voices of Now Festival features original works of theater written and performed by 10 different youth ensembles. Each ensemble's play poses challenging social questions and investigates those questions by recounting the artists' personal stories. This year's plays examine topics including school fight culture, the experience of first and second generation Americans, the education system, the implications of language, and questions that emerge when grieving a loss.

Tickets for the Voices of Now Festival are **FREE**, though reservations are required through the Arena Stage Sales Office at **202-488-3300** or **tickets.arenastage.org/single/psDetail.aspx?psn=24370**.

2017 Voices of Now Festival Schedule:

All performances take place in the Arlene and Robert Kogod Cradle in the Mead Center, 1101 6th St. SW.

Wednesday, May 17 — 7:30 p.m.

Missing Link by the Mentor Ensemble
Learning Curve by the Advocacy Ensemble
Home Team by the Jefferson Academy Ensemble



Thursday, May 18 — 7:30 p.m.

Fight or Flight by the Key Middle School Ensemble
Language Barrier by the Key World Ensemble
Learning Curve by the Advocacy Ensemble

Friday, May 19 — 7:30 p.m.

Under Pressure by the Glasgow Middle School Ensemble
Label Maker by the Burke School Ensemble
Missing Link by the Mentor Ensemble

Saturday, May 20 — 7:30 p.m.

World Wide Web by the Robinson Secondary School Ensemble
Tongue Tied by the Mead Ensemble
Cast Away by the Wendt Center Ensemble



Affordable & Workforce Housing at The Wharf

The Wharf is proud to announce that its Phase I apartment buildings, Incanto and The Channel, will offer reduced rental rates for qualified low-income households on new apartments available for move-in starting in late August.

Tenants for the 131 Affordable and 69 Workforce Housing apartments will be selected by lottery, which will be held on June 22, 2017. Applicants must register by June 16, 2017.



Income restrictions apply. Please check the charts to see whether you qualify. Sign up at wharfdc.com by clicking on Residences, then select Incanto or The Channel, and then register your name and contact information. You may also register directly on the websites of Incanto (incantodc.com) or The Channel (dcchannel.com). Or call 866.339.9293 to register and get more information.

Area Median Income (AMI), 2016 Maximum Limit				
NUMBER IN HOUSEHOLD	30% AMI	60% AMI	100% AMI	120% AMI
1	\$ 22,806	\$ 45,612	\$ 76,020	\$ 91,224
2	\$ 26,064	\$ 52,128	\$ 86,880	\$ 104,256
3	\$ 29,322	\$ 58,644	\$ 97,740	\$ 117,288
4	\$ 32,580	\$ 65,160	\$ 108,600	\$ 130,320

NUMBER OF BEDROOMS	Affordable Housing Rental Rates		Workforce Housing Rental Rates	
	RENT FOR 30% AMI**	RENT FOR 60% AMI**	RENT FOR 100% AMI**	RENT FOR 120% AMI**
Studio	\$ 570.15	\$ 1,140.30	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,875.00
1 Bedroom	\$ 651.60	\$ 1,303.20	\$ 2,172.00	\$ 2,450.00
2 Bedroom	\$ 733.05	\$ 1,466.10	\$ 2,443.50	\$ 2,932.20

*2016 Washington DC Metropolitan Area Median Income (AMI)

**Calculated rents include utilities; actual rents will be net of utility allowance.



SWNA Education Task Force Scholarship Award Recipient Spotlight

By: Bonita White

The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA) Education and Scholarship Task Force (ESTF) is pleased to spotlight three-time SWNA-ESTF scholarship award recipient Gary T. Hill.

Gary is the youngest of four children born to Gary and Lureva Hill, and has been a South-west resident his entire 21 years of life at The Commons of Town Square. His father is a native Washingtonian and his mother relocated to DC from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, more than 30 years ago. He attended Amidon Elementary, Dupont Park Seventh Day Adventist School for grades 7 through 10 and completed 11th and 12th grade at Archbishop Carroll, from which he graduated in the Class of 2013.

This industrious young man began serving his community at a very early age when he, along with his family, began delivering *The Southwester* newspaper to residents in 2000. By the time Gary reached 9th grade, he was delivering *The Southwester* to a part of the neighborhood that had not been receiving it, by himself.

After graduating high school, Gary decided to attend the nation's first historically black college and university, now known as Cheyney University of Pennsylvania. The fact that the school is small, all of the professors know their students, it feels like family, is away from home, but, not too far away, all played a role in attracting Gary to Cheyney. He also has taken summer courses at the University of DC.

Gary will be graduating from Cheyney in May with a major in liberal studies. One of his goals includes being a full-time teacher. Whether he becomes a classroom teacher or not, he plans to work with youth, inspiring and encouraging them as his Bible teacher, Mr. Charles Johnson, inspired and encouraged him. Gary just wants to "pay it forward." He admires Mr. Johnson for being able to relate to his students and credits him with being his role model.

Of course, Gary's father is his greatest influence because he has pushed and encouraged him throughout his life. When asked who he believes are the most inspirational figures in



Gary T. Hill

African-American history, Gary responded with Martin Luther King, Jr., because he entered Morehouse College at 15, was a Christian, and fought for Equal Rights. Gary said he also regards Malcolm X as an important historical figure because of his dedication to the belief that equality and justice should be achieved "by any means necessary."

Gary's favorite book is *When Things Fall Apart* by Professor

Chinua Achebe. Originally published in 1958, Gary says this book has stood the test of time and is still relevant today because of its great life lessons. He has also enjoyed reading the biographies of Thurgood Marshall and Booker T. Washington, and says Washington's biography is the best he has ever read. Gary likes all kinds of music and his favorite movies are action movies such as *The Expendables*, the original *Great Gatsby*, and the *Fast and Furious* franchise. His hobbies include watching sports, playing basketball, going out, walking, and finding new adventures. He has also found time to work at Nationals Park, where he enjoys the baseball games.

Gary remains active in his community and helps others by mowing the grass and shoveling snow. He also likes to travel and has been to such destinations as the Bahamas, St. Thomas, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Florida, and Texas. He would like to travel to Africa (to do missionary service, like his aunt), Puerto Rico, Peru, and California in the near future.

According to Gary, the greatest advice he has received was from his father, who taught him: "When you make a mistake, don't dwell on it, correct your course and move on." He says he believes the most helpful advice he could give to youth coming behind him is: "Develop time management skills so you can use your time wisely and make every moment special."

Gary sincerely appreciates the opportunities and support he received from SWNA. In 2013 he received a computer from SWNA's Technology Task Force to take to college. In 2014, 2015, and 2016 he received scholarships from the ESTF that assisted with his college tuition. After graduation in May, Gary will return to DC where he will work with youth in Ward 8, giving back to the city he loves.

PSA 105 March Meeting Notes

A special thank you to our hostess Loreta Williams who not only provided a lovely meeting place, but also an array of delicious refreshments for the meeting. Officer Charles Smith, Jr. of the Crime Suppression Team represented the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) at the meeting. Twenty-three community members were in attendance. Ten participants left prior to Officer Smith's arrival.

Lt. Robinson was on leave and Sgt. Barnes left early because of a family emergency. Thankfully, the members of the Barnes family are now well. Officer Smith agreed to cover the meeting and arrived at 8:05 p.m. as he dealt with an incident on his way to the meeting. Prior to his arrival the group discussed issues of concern including:

- Cars parking on 4th St. in front of DCRA during the day and near Safeway and CVS in the late afternoon and evening hours and weekends
- Youth crime robberies at CVS and Safeway and approaches the community should take
- Possible activities for area youth
- Issuing metro passes to juveniles that allow them to traverse the city at will and cause issues

Update on Neighborhood Criminal Activity and MPD News

CVS and Safeway Robberies

Officer Smith discussed the recent mass shoplifting incidents at CVS and Safeway. He pointed out that the incidents are not occurring at the same rate given MPD presence and enhanced security at Safeway. He also noted that they seem to be at specific times (e.g. after school concludes for the day).

Echoing Lt. Robinson's request at the February meeting, Officer Smith encouraged residents to call MPD if they see teens/kids grouping near CVS or Safeway. Officers Marshall and Bernard are patrolling on bike (weather permitting) during the day along the 4th St. corridor. School resource officers continue to assist with the investigations. Responding to a question from the floor about the role of Metro Transit Police, he noted that they assist by advising MPD if a large group of teens seem to be gathering in the Waterfront Metro.

The role of private security and their level of interaction with law enforcement was also inquired about. Officer Smith noted that MPD works with private security as much as possible but some agencies/buildings are more receptive than others.

Later in the meeting someone asked whether a less punitive approach would be better, perhaps providing activities for the juveniles. Officer Smith noted that he and other officers often drop by the rec center and play basketball with the teens and get to know them in a social, relaxed setting. One attendee noted that some cities use an award system whereby the teens earn chits or points that they can then turn into gift cards or other items.

Crime Statistics

The following crime statistics were pulled from crimemap.dc.gov for the time parameter Feb. 15 to March 8. More detail is on crimemap.dc.gov.

First District Summary

The First District saw a decrease in violent crime since the last meeting (46 last month, 20 this period). Theft from auto crimes remain an issue. Burglaries decreased from 13 to 7.

PSA 105

Assault with Dangerous Weapon	1 cases with a gun (unchanged over last period)
Robberies	0 Robberies without a gun (a decrease of 2 over last period) 0 robberies with a gun (unchanged over last period)
Theft From Auto	24 thefts recorded in last period but 12 in this period
Burglaries	0 cases this period (unchanged over last period)

Questions from Audience

Shootings near Friendly Market

One attendee asked for an update on the shooting at/near the market and the loitering/possible illegal activity occurring there. Officer Smith noted that MPD was patrolling the area with specialized units and regular patrols. When asked about a recent shooting on N St., he noted that it was still an open case.

Cars Driving Down Sidewalk between Ft. McNair and Riverside.

An attendee noted that he was walking down the sidewalk between Riverside and Ft. McNair and was almost run down by a vehicle traveling at a fairly high rate of speed off P St. onto the sidewalk. The cars seem to be turning right and using a rear parking lot. Officer Smith noted that this area may not be fully in MPD's jurisdiction but that he would note it to his superior officers.

Police Resources and Wharf Opening

The opening of the Wharf was mentioned and Officer Smith was asked about the

See "PSA 105," page 12

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Assistant DC Police Chief Groomes to Lead Wharf Security & Public Safety Upon Retirement from MPD

Officials from Hoffman-Madison Waterfront, the developer of The Wharf, today announced that veteran Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Official Diane Groomes will be joining The Wharf team as director of security and public safety following her retirement from MPD at the end of April.

In her new role, Groomes will direct all operations and activities of The Wharf's security program to ensure a safe and secure world-class, urban waterfront neighborhood. When The Wharf opens its first phase in October, the neighborhood will span nearly a mile of waterfront and, when complete, will include 3.2 million square feet of residential, hotel, office, restaurant, retail, and cultural space across 24 acres of land and over 50 acres of water on the Washington Channel of the Potomac River.

"There is nothing we take more seriously than the safety of our waterfront community, and we feel incredibly fortunate to welcome someone so trusted and experienced in security and community policing to lead what is without a doubt one of the most important



Courtesy Metropolitan Police Department

Assistant Chief Diane Groomes.

roles at The Wharf," said Monty Hoffman, founder and CEO of PN Hoffman.

Groomes has served for the past 10 years in

her role as assistant chief of the Patrol Services and School Safety Bureau and has a 27-year-long law enforcement career with MPD. At MPD, Groomes oversaw all patrol units from the First to Seventh districts, Special Liaison Division, and school safety in the District of Columbia.

"Over the past three decades, the Metropolitan Police Department has transformed itself into one of the most prestigious and respected law enforcement organizations in the country. This transformation could not have occurred without the blood, sweat, and tears of people like Diane Groomes," said Metropolitan Police Chief Peter Newsham. "Diane has been an integral part of MPD's success, and her legacy will live on as this agency continues to thrive. She has been the epitome of commitment to this city, and she stands out as the example of the public servant we would all like to be," Chief Newsham added.

Bringing her knowledge of state-of-the-art security philosophies and modern community policing experience, Groomes will oversee creating and maintaining a safe and secure

environment for the millions of people who visit, live, work, or come to be entertained at The Wharf.

"When The Wharf opens this fall, not only will it be one of the largest waterfront developments under construction in the country, but it will be one of the most technologically advanced neighborhoods from a safety and security standpoint," said Chief Groomes. "What The Wharf team is building here is unprecedented, and it will be my job to ensure the well-being of residents, businesses, and visitors that come to our neighborhood. This is an incredibly unique opportunity, and one that I look forward to embracing."

"We are honored to have Diane Groomes join The Wharf team in her new role as director of security and public safety," said Amer Hammour, chairman of Madison Marquette. "The Wharf is committed to ensuring that every visitor and resident enjoys a positive, memorable and meaningful experience in our vibrant neighborhood and Chief Groomes's long history of public safety excellence will contribute to that goal," Mr. Hammour added.

An Interview with Nick Mann

By: Sheila Wickouski

You might know Nick Mann from Friday Night Jazz at Westminster Presbyterian Church where he is one of the sound technicians. Nick first lived in Southwest in the late 1960s and then moved back in 2011. He has a Ph.D. from Howard University and is a faculty member at the Federal Executive Institute.

His first novel, *Forgetful*, which is about a Howard professor who develops Alzheimer's, won the Beverly Hills Book Award in African American Fiction in 2015. Nick recently completed his second novel, *Wounded*.

The story, set in Southwest DC, opens with a form letter that was sent to residents in 1955, that the National Capitol Housing Authority intended to purchase and remove buildings in a five-block section between 2nd and 3rd and E and M, Delaware Ave. and Canal to build 450 units of low-rent housing. The 60-year span of the novel covers the effects of historical changes from regional urban development to international events like the Vietnam War on a group of young friends.

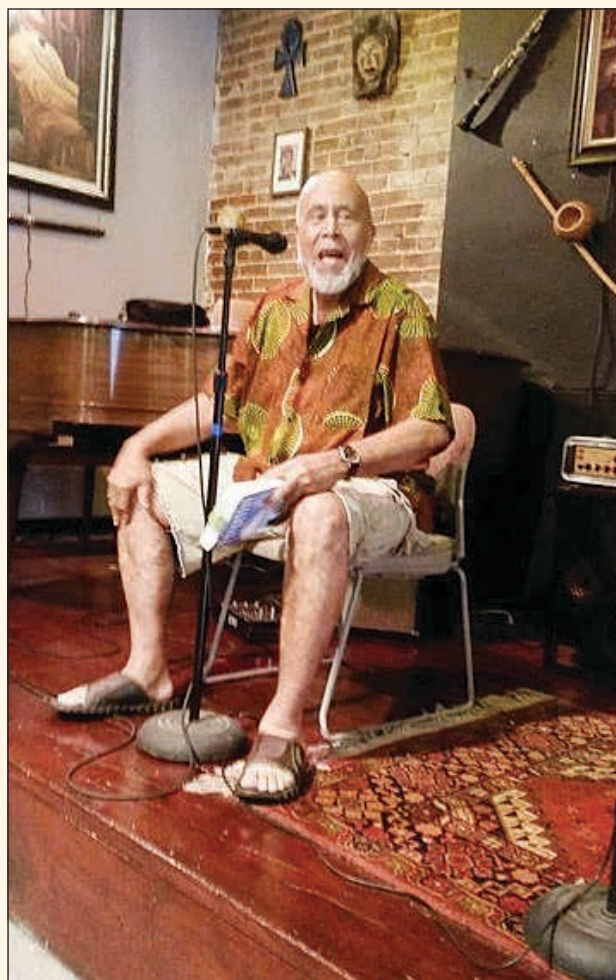
Q: How did you decide you were going to write this story?

A: *Wounded* is both a prequel and a sequel to my first novel, *Forgetful*, in which I tell a story about various members of what I call the Michigan Park crew. *Forgetful* ends with unfinished business between two of the central characters—Ben Parks and Levi Chance.

I got the idea that I would go back and tell readers where Levi came from before he moved to Michigan Park and entered high school. That brought me to the idea of setting his beginnings in old Southwest DC in the late 1950s.

Q: How much of this story is true in your life and the people you know?

A: There's probably less than 10% that's true. My life is more like Ben's than Levi's. Ben does the same kind of work that I did during my career, and Ben's family life is quite a bit like mine. Levi is inspired by people that I've known down through the years, but there's no single inspiration for his character. Even less about Tracy is true, but there are a



few inspirations for him going back to my high school days and my time in the army in the late 1960s.

Q: How hard was it to portray fictional characters in a historical setting?

A: Not hard because this town is so full of historical events that I could write my characters into. The times that I've lived through have been rich with events that are easy to imagine my characters being a part of, even if I wasn't.

Q: What is the primary message of your book, and what do you want people to take away from it?

A: For one, I want people to be informed about the history. Do people know what happened down in Southwest DC? It's a tragic gentrification story for many but for others it set up an opportunity to build a new community. No story has only one side. But we all know what Southwest has become. It's the "what Southwest was part of" that many don't know.

Secondly, my life has been touched by close friends and family who've been gripped by alcohol problems. And there's not just one outcome in their stories. I wanted to show just one of the many paths that are possible when a group of people who really care about someone decides to do something together to help. Maybe someone will be inspired to act on some of the ideas the Michigan Park crew took with Levi.

Q: How does *Wounded* relate to the story of *Forgetful*?

A: Ben's worry about whether or not he was on the front edge of Alzheimer's was pretty much put to bed in *Forgetful*. He's still forgetful, but it's not Alzheimer's ... at least not for now. He's still clumsy and scattered but less is made of that in *Wounded* since Levi's and Tracy's roles are so expanded. But Ben is still teaching his seminar every other summer on race and culture. And he's still working with clients on various organizational problems. It's important to me that I keep the whole Ben in front of readers, even if it's not the most important story that I'm telling because the series started with him.

Q: What are the dates and times of the book signings?

A: The schedule is still to be determined but there will be readings and signings at Westminster and at Alice Jamieson's Jazz and Cultural Society (in Northeast DC) in May or early June. I did several DC library readings for *Forgetful* and will probably repeat that. I'll be at the Kensington Day of the Book Festival on April 23—that's probably going to be before *Wounded's* release. And I'll be at the Literary Hill Bookfest on May 7.

May 2017

WED 3, 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, 900 Wesley Pl. SW, 202-724-4752.

FRI 5, 12 Noon Waterfront Village “Lunch at the Club” series goes to the Ft. McNair Officers Club for a buffet lunch and a tour of historic Grant Hall, scene of the Lincoln assassination trials. 202-656-1834 to RSVP or see www.dewaterfrontvillage.org/calendar for more information. \$16.

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, 10 A.M.-4 P.M. Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall announces its next quarterly Public Open House of Grant Hall’s historic third-floor courtroom, located on the Fort McNair side of the Joint Base in southwest Washington D.C., from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 6. The courtroom is the site of the military tribunal, held from May through June 1865, of those thought responsible for the plot to assassinate President Abraham Lincoln. Reservations: Members of the public are invited to the Public Open House, which is free to attend. Guests without a Department of Defense (DoD), Federal or AIE (Automated Installation Entry) ID are asked to register in advance. Please access the following link online to complete your registration: <https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=339109&k=01624B087B5E> ; or go to the Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Facebook Events Page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1732439233449202/>, then click on the “find tickets” tab to access the reservation site. For the most up-to-date information on base access, parking information and a site map, go to the JBM-HH website at www.army.mil/JBMHH. Closures due to inclement weather or when mission dictates will be updated on JBM-HH’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/jbmhh>. For additional information, call Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Public Affairs at 703-696-3283 during normal business hours.

SAT 6, 10:30-12:00 P.M. 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. SW Library, basement, 202-724-4752.

SAT 6, 10:30 A.M. Chinese/English bilingual storytime. Children ages 4-12 are invited to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with a bilingual storytime. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

SAT 6, 12:00 Noon. SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT AARP CHAPTER MAY SPRING LUNCHEON will be held at Tony and Joe’s Seafood Place-3000 K Street NW, at Georgetown Harbor, adjacent to the Potomac River with outdoor seating and great views of the Potomac River. a la Carte Menu-sandwiches, soups, salads, etc. Price Range- \$8.00-\$18 + tax and gratuity. Cash or credit cards. Lunch entrees-\$14-\$26. Parking- \$13 Flat Rate for the day at Washington Harbour Parking Garage, 3050 K Street NW between 30th Street and Thomas Jefferson adjacent to the restaurant. Carpooling suggested. Review Tony and Joe’s online menu at tonyandjoes.com for additional selections. After lunch at Tony and Joe’s, if anyone is interested in what is showing, you could take in a movie at the Georgetown Movie Theater in the next block, relax on the waterfront benches, stroll along the waterfront, or do some Georgetown shopping, since we will have garage parking for the remainder of the evening until midnight. I look forward to hearing from you with your RSVP to our May Luncheon. You may RSVP at 202-554-0901 or email me at bettyjeantolbertjones@yahoo.com.

SAT 6, 1-2:30 P.M. Yoga Nidra, Meditate, Chant, Breathe and Healing Relaxation. Move toward healing your Mind, Body and Spirit Pamela Wilson guides a very deep, conscious relaxation focused on setting intention. No experience in Yoga or meditation necessary. Bring a mat and light covering. Invite family and friends. A donation of \$10 is suggested. For more information call 202-746-6654 or email: wilsonpj108@verizon.net Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 “I” (eye) Street SW.

MON 8, 4:30 P.M. CHILDREN’S BOOK CLUB. Children ages 8-12 are invited to join us to discuss a book together. Please call or stop by the Children’s Room to find out the latest pick. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

MON 8, 7 P.M. - ANC 6D Monthly Business Meeting, 1101 4th Street SW, Suite W130. Agenda at www.anc6d.org

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.

SAT 13, 10 A.M-2 P.M. Waterfront Village informational display and free refreshments at the Southwest Farmers Market, 4th & M Streets SW.

SAT 13, 11 A.M. Kids Bike Ride and storytime. Children are invited to for a bike ride and storytime. The bike ride begins at Rosedale and ends at Southwest Library.

Community Calendar

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.

Registration required. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

SAT 13, 7-9 P.M. Faith & Film Presents: *Hidden Figures*; Release Date: December 25, 2016. Duration: 2hr 7min Rating: PG. Three brilliant African-American women at NASA serve as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history, the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, a stunning achievement that galvanized the world. 7pm movie and refreshments. Bring a treat that can be shared with others. Movie followed by discussion. 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. – 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 17, 6:30 P.M. Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Support Group Meeting in celebration of National Community Action Month. Guest Speaker Cathryn Burby, Senior Director, Community Engagement, South Atlantic Division, American Cancer Society, Inc. will provide an overview on ACS and its programs as well as talk about plans on the horizon for the 2017 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Campaign. St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church, 555 Water Street, SW. For questions contact thelma@tdjbreastcancerfund.org or call 202-251-1639.

THURS 18, 4 P.M. Waterfront Village volunteer orientation at Town Square Towers, 700 7th St SW. See www.dewaterfrontvillage.org/volunteer for more information or call 202-656-1834.

THURS 18, 7 P.M. Waterfront Village informational meeting and town hall at Town Square Towers, 700 7th SW.

FRI 19, 3:00 P.M. Friday Films. Children ages 6-12 are invited to join us for a movie! Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

SAT 20, 9-11 A.M. Environmental Justice Workshop - Leaders from various sectors will engage in a free exchange of ideas and approaches to achieving environmental justice. The workshop will feature voices of experience, research, discussions, and thought-provoking dialogue on the needs and challenges of neighboring communities and organizations with an interest in environmental justice. Westminster Presbyterian Church. 11:30am-4pm Health Slam Jam (on church lawn) Activities include: Farmer’s Market, Health Screenings, Dance Exercise, Nutrients Counseling, Children’s Dental Screening and Patient Navigation. Free to the Public. Westminster Presbyterian Church. 12pm-Dusk “2nd Annual Blues Festival” Join us for Blues and more Blues as we showcase the finest Blues artists in DC and the surrounding area. Free Admission. Food and crafts for sale. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

SAT 20, 10:30 A.M. -12:00 P.M. 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. SW Library, basement, 202-724-4752.

SAT 20, 2:30 P.M. Tango Practice - all levels welcome. SW Library

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.

MON 22, 7 P.M. Life Design Working Group. Based on William Barnett’s and Dave Evans’s bestseller *Designing Your Life*. SW Library.

WED 24, 4:30 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 202-724-4752.

WED 24, 7 P.M. Dancing Mindfulness workshop, SW Library.

THURS 25, 2 P.M. Waterfront Village informational meeting and town hall at River Park Mutual Homes, 1311 Delaware Ave SW,

THURS 25, 6:30 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. King Greenleaf Rec Center, 201 N Street, SW.

FRI 26, 9:15 P.M. Jazz Night at the Movies presents American Masters Documentary- *Ella Fitzgerald: Something to Live For* (86 minutes). Westminster Presbyterian Church.

SAT 27, 1:00 P.M. SOUTHWEST BOOK DISCUSSION - Copies of this month’s selection, “How We Got to Now” by

Steven Johnson are available at the information desks for checkout at the information desk. SW Library.

SAT 27, 3:00 P.M. Flag Craft. Children ages 4-12 are invited to celebrate Memorial Day Weekend with a flag craft. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library.

WED 31, 4:30 P.M. Science Experiment. Children ages 6-12 are invited to join for some fun science experiments. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. SW Library, 900 Wesley Pl. SW, 202-724-4752. .

WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

ADULT RECREATION, 10 A.M. - Noon, Saturdays, Ages 18 & up, All Staff. King Greenleaf Recreation Center. 202-554-7945.

ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP. 10:30-11:30 A.M. 2nd Tuesdays of the month. Free and open to the Public. Location: Faith Presbyterian Church 4161 S. Capitol St. SW. Take the A4, A2 or A8 bus from Anacostia Metro. Contacts: Vickie Henriksen vlhenrikson@gmail.com or Carroll Quinn 513-763-9921. For more information: alz.org/nca or 800-272-3900.

ARTS & CRAFTS, 5 - 6 P.M., Tuesdays, Ages 5-14 with Michelle Edmonds, King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

BABY/TODDLER STORYTIME 10:30 A.M., Mondays. 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. NOTE: The library will be closed on Mon. 29th (Memorial Day)

BINGO for SENIORS, 1 - 3 P.M., Mondays and Thursdays, ages 55 & up, Paul Taylor, King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

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

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.

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:30 A.M. St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church, 555 Water 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.

CO-ED TEE BALL. Tuesday & Thursday. 5:00 - 6:00 P.M. Ages 4-6. Paul Taylor. King Greenleaf Recreation Center. 202-554-7945.

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. SW Library. NOTE: The library will be closed on Mon. 29th (Memorial Day)

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.

DC DRAGON BOAT CLUB. 8:30 A.M., Saturdays. Interested in meeting new people, getting into shape, and enjoying the great outdoors? Come to the Wharf at the Southwest Waterfront and join a free paddling session with the DC Dragon Boat Club. Dragon boat is the fastest growing water sport in the world; it is a great workout that can be enjoyed by paddlers of all ages and experience levels. The DC Dragon Boat Club is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing dragon boating to the D.C. area. We are metro-accessible and offer regular practices, opportunities to race in local venues, and social activities. Beginners are welcome! The first three practices are free! Sign up at www.dcdragonboat.org/ Questions? Email info@dcdragonboat.org.

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.

EVENING PRAYERS & Simple Suppers. 6:30 P.M., Tuesdays. Simple fellowship supper of soup, salad and home-made bread. St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church.

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 SCOUTS TROOP 4298. K-12. Bi-Weekly Wednesday. 5:30 - 7:00 P.M. Monica Evans. King Greenleaf Recreation

Center.

GIRLS SOFTBALL. Tuesdays & Thursdays. 6-7 P.M. Ages 8-15. Safiyyah Aleem-Woods. King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP by Kevin Bliss.1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 2:00 pm, and an evening group on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 6:30 pm. **The Center for Contemplative and Healing Arts** at St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church. Donations Accepted. kbliss@kevinjbliss.com.

HAND DANCING, 12:30 - 3:30 P.M., Saturdays with Mr. Zeke. All ages welcome. King Greenleaf RecreationCenter.

INSPIRING WORSHIP AND KID’S CHURCH, Sundays, 11 A.M. - noon. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

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

KEYS TO FREEDOM NA Group, Tuesdays 12-1 P.M., St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church.

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.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, Wednesday 7-8 P.M. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

NARFE: The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association **1:30-2:30 P.M.** meets the fourth Thursday of the month, September through May at the 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.

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.

SENIOR ARTS & CRAFTS, 1-2 P.M. , TUESDAY - Ages 55 & up. Paul Taylor. King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY MARKET, 9 A.M.-1P.M. SATURDAYS, May 13-October 28 Entering its third season, the Southwest Community Market returns to the lot at **Waterfront Metro Station**. Dreaming Out Loud, Inc. — in partnership with Diverse Markets Management LLC (responsible for the Downtown Holiday Market & The Flea Market at Eastern Market) and the Southwest Business Improvement District — looks to have our best season yet! The market features 12-15 diversified vendors offering baked goods, coffee/tea, jams/jellies, prepared foods, pasture-raised meats & eggs, and locally grown produce. We also regularly schedule market entertainment including live music, cooking demos, dance workshops, lawn games and more! Looking forward to having you!

THE SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT AARP CHAPTER #4751. Monthly Meetings are held every third Wednesday at 12:00 noon. Current AARP members, prospective members and visitors are welcome. Costs: \$5.00 for lunch.

River Park Mutual Homes Community Room, 1311 Delaware Avenue SW. For further information, contact Chapter President Betty Jean Tolbert, bettyjeantolbertjones@yahoo.com or 202-554-0901.

SW FREEWAY, NA, 7 - 8 P.M., Wednesdays, **Westminster Presbyterian Church**, 400 “I” (Eye) Street 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.

WATERFRONT VILLAGE, Fridays 10-11 A.M. Office hours at Safeway Starbucks, 1100 4th Street SW.

YOGA BY PAM WILSON, 8 A.M.-9 A.M. Wednesdays. **The Center for Contemplative and Healing Arts** at St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church. Bring a mat if you have one. Donations Accepted. For information, call Pamela Wilson (202) 746-6654 or email: wilsonpj108@verizon.net

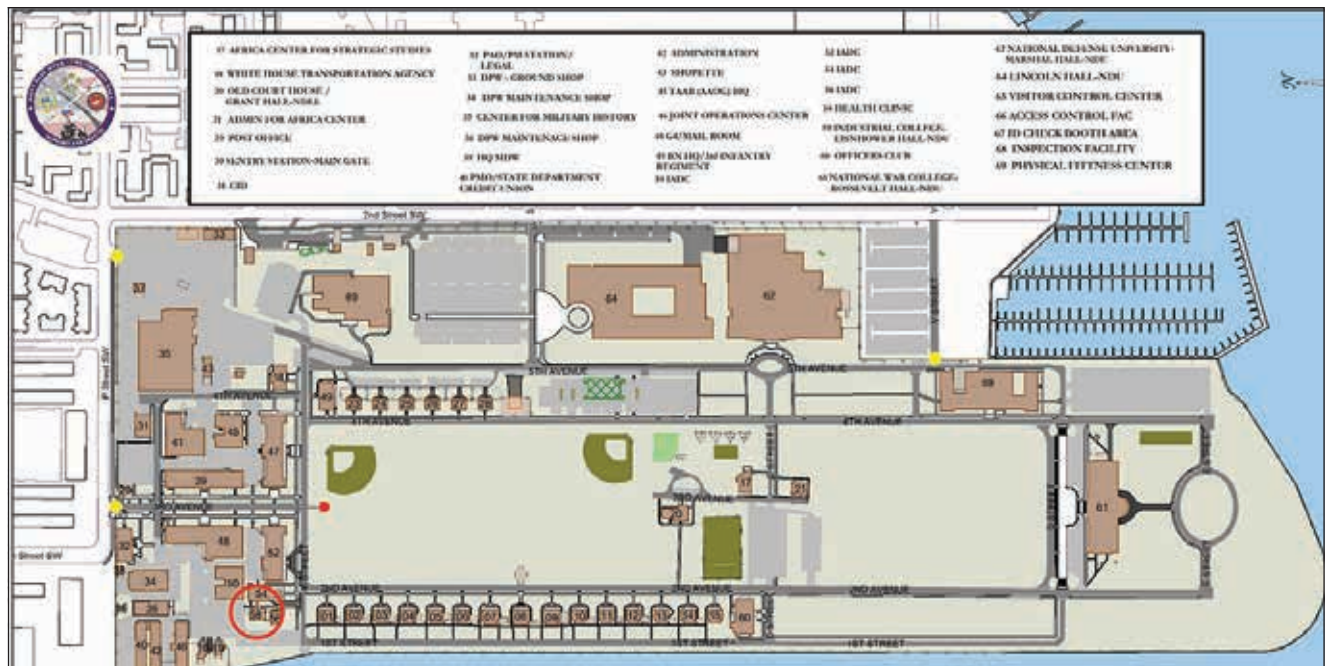
YOGA FOR ADULTS and TEENS, 6:30-7:30 P.M. Tuesdays & Thursdays. All levels welcome. Bring your own mat or use a library provided mat. SW Library.

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

ZUMBA, 7:30-8:30 P.M. Mondays, Instructor Roshaunda Jenkins will lead this one-hour fitness and dance workout — all fitness levels welcome. The class is free and no registration is required. Dance your way to fitness! SW Library. No class May 29th. Library closed.

Architectural Change Proposed for Historic Building on Ft. McNair

The Department of the Army has submitted a concept design for the proposed modifications to Building 58, located at Fort McNair. Building 58, located in the northwest corner of the installation, currently accommodates medical clinic functions. It was built in 1884 in the Second Empire architectural style. It occupies a footprint of approximately 9,054 square feet, and consists of a three-story structure with a rectangular footprint, with contiguous basement and brick load-bearing walls on partially visible stone foundations. The third floor is a slate clad mansard facade with dormers and sloping slate roof. Fenestration is a rectangular double-hung sash configuration, within rectangular punched openings in the masonry portion of the wall and within the wood-clad,



wood-framed dormers at the third-floor mansard. The building abuts a basement and first-floor hyphen (connector) that extends to the adjacent Building 54, a structure of similar construction and configuration that was built at the same time. The building qualifies for historic registration and has been fully operational since its construction.

The proposal includes construction of a new elevator/stair tower addition to Building 58. The goal of the project is to meet current building codes related to egress. The original building is located above street level and does not currently provide code-compliant ADA access for patients, staff, or

visitors. The basement in the facility includes the mechanical room, exercise room, and supply/storage rooms. The first floor of the facility houses the lab, waiting/reception, treatment room, office with exam room, and a screening room with audio booth. Existing functional program spaces on the second floor are mostly made up of offices, toilet, supply, and communications rooms. Existing functional program spaces on the third floor provide space for a conference room, toilet, showers, and large classroom. There is no internal access to upper floors for those who are incapable of walking up stairs.

New Dentist Office Opens at Waterfront Station

Dr. Dan Jones and Leslie-Anne Fitzpatrick have opened their new dental offices, Smile Beautiful Dental, at Waterfront Station (1101 4th St. SW), filling one of the last available spaces. Longtime residents may remember Dr. Jones's father, Dr. Paul Jones, but everyone knows the tooth-shaped bike parking space at the corner of 4th and G St. SW in front of his dental office.

After six months of construction, the new site opened on April 4. The size of the office has expanded significantly from

four treatment rooms to nine. The office is spacious and bright; it has all new, state-of-the-art equipment and includes a kids area.

"We are overjoyed about having this new location, and how it will help us achieve our goal of providing the best dental care to our patients in the most stress-free way possible," said Dr. Jones.

For an appointment, call (202) 554-5011, or visit their website at <http://smile-beautifuldental.com>. Or, just stop in and say hi.

OUTREACH

From p. 1

to text him daily reports on how the area's homeless were doing to see whether SWBID could offer any assistance. Oatmeal was excited about this new responsibility, and wanted to show Witt that he could handle his new tasks, but Oatmeal was having trouble articulating what he was trying to say through text.

"I could see he was having trouble sending me text messages," said Witt, but Oatmeal did not give up. "[Oatmeal] told me that he was teaching himself grammar and vocabulary in the evenings so that he could text me updates. After a few weeks, it's amazing, the texts he sends me contain no spelling errors."

On Thursday, March 23, Sara Varnado and Guy Laryea from Community Connections met with the SWBID ambassador team. Community Connections is the largest nonprofit mental health agency in the nation's capital serving men, women, and children. Community Connections' core purpose is to

provide behavioral health, residential services, and primary health care coordination to those coping with mental illness, addiction, and the aftermath of trauma and abuse—all factors for many of the area's homeless population.

During their meeting, Varnado and Laryea discussed the unique challenges that homeless people face in the District and how the SWBID ambassadors can help them get supplies and services to the homeless folks in the Southwest area.

"The SWBID was limited in what we could do to help the homeless in Southwest DC. The relationship with Community Connections is a win/win because now we can make sure that needs of the homeless are being met," said Witt. "We like this work. We want to get a little better at this every day."

As SWBID Executive Director Steve Moore said, "We are honored to have someone like Oatmeal on our team and can't wait to see how he evolves and grows!" We are, too. Thanks, Oatmeal, for what you do for our community.

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Friends of SWDC Holds Annual Meeting

By: Peter Eicher

A broad array of small organizations is at work to make Southwest a better place, by organizing youth programs, assisting seniors, creating opportunities, and enriching our community. The achievements of these disparate groups were on display at the annual meeting of Friends of Southwest DC (FOS) at Westminster Presbyterian Church on the evening of March 30. In 2016, FOS provided grants to nine community organizations, almost all of which were at the meeting to offer their thanks and describe how their programs have benefited Southwest residents. Many grantees echoed the sentiment that “we couldn’t have done it without you.”

FOS President Coralie Farlee opened the meeting, thanking donors and reporting that FOS distributed grants totaling more than \$22,000 in 2016, a new high for the organization. Because FOS is run by volunteers and has no paid staff, more than 95 percent of donations goes directly to grants that serve the community. FOS was particularly pleased to be able to assist four new organizations in 2016, in addition to renewing support for several groups previously funded.

An underlying theme that emerged from the meeting was that a little financial assistance can go a long way toward making community programs viable. FOS “gets a big bang” out of its small grants, remarked Jay Shorter, whose group Students Taught Organization and Respect through Mentoring (STORM) used its FOS grant to take a group of teen boys from Jefferson Academy on an educational trip. The boys traveled to Hampton, Virginia, making stops at two universities, a museum, and the Emancipation Oak, where freed slaves once gathered to learn to read and write. Support from FOS “means a great deal to us,” said Shorter. “We were able to take kids out of the city who otherwise would never have had the opportunity.”



Sisters Tasia and Marshayla Bailey, with Girl Scout leader Monica Evans, describe their participation in programs funded by Friends of Southwest as board members and others look on.

Another 2016 FOS grant enabled two students from Jefferson Academy to attend Camp Arena Stage, which relies on grants for all such scholarships. A separate FOS grant helped make it possible for a full ensemble from Jefferson to participate in Arena’s “Voices of Now” program. Anita Maynard-Losh, representing Arena Stage, described the positive impact of the program on participants, citing one FOS grantee who progressed through the program to become a camp mentor and is now one of its teachers.

The youngest speaker at the meeting was Marshayla Bailey of Southwest Girl Scout troop 4298, who described her participation in a trip to the Chesapeake Children’s Museum for a one-day workshop to earn merit badges, made possible by a grant from FOS.

Emma Ward expressed appreciation for a grant that enabled her organization, EmmaUS Learning Center, to take a group of Southwest children on an educational visit to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Thanks to FOS support, the trip has become an annual event. The outing, which focuses on the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, is preceded by a visit to the National Archives. Participants also receive a lesson in personal financial management and, on the bus trip, learn basic rules of traffic and road navigation.

Although most 2016 grants centered on youth programs, FOS also contributed to an important new Southwest initiative for seniors: the creation of the Waterfront Village. The Village is an impressive program to enable seniors to stay in their homes and age in place, by providing them with assistance and services. Bob Craycraft, executive director, described how in its first month of operation the Village has dealt with well over 100 requests for assistance, from transportation to referrals for financial and legal services. Harlow Pease, a Village member, commented that the assistance he received has been “a huge boon in being able to stay in my home.”

The Amidon-Bowen Elementary School PTA used its FOS grant for a program to enhance the school’s image, foster a sense of identity, improve school spirit, and enable Amidon-Bowen to compete more effectively

in attracting students. The Southwest Community Forum received a grant to support its annual festival at Lansburgh Park, a family day that boosts neighborliness and community spirit. A representative from the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA), Vyllorya Evans, showed a video featuring the achievements of FOS college scholarship grantee Asha Marshall. FOS provides funding for two scholarships as part of SWNA’s broader youth program. Sasha Bruce Youthworks, which received a grant for infant, toddler, and youth programs at Randall Recreation Center, was unable to attend.

Farlee announced that an anonymous donor has pledged a “triple match” in support of the FOS spring fundraising drive. The donor will contribute up to \$10,000 by tripling the contributions made by other donors between now and July 4. This presents an extraordinary opportunity for Southwest residents to give back to their neighborhood and to support the many community organizations working to make Southwest a better place.

In other business, the FOS board welcomed two new members, Peter Eicher and Lucy Rojansky, and expressed its thanks to Rodney Ross, who is stepping down from the board after several years of service. There are currently two vacancies on the board; Southwest residents interested in joining are encouraged to contact the board at FriendsSWDC@yahoo.com, or 202-488-4419. More information on FOS, including the Annual Report for 2016, is available on its website: friendsoswdc.org.



Friends of Southwest scholarship grantee Asha Marshall (on screen) recounts her university success to meeting participants.

Nats Play Final Exhibition Game at U.S. Naval Academy



Photos by Jamal Jones

Above, Screech poses with midshipmen before the game.

At left, helicopter flyover during the National Anthem.

By: Jamal Jones

The Washington Nationals concluded their spring exhibition play versus the Boston Red Sox Saturday, April 1 at Max Bishop Stadium at the U.S. Naval Academy. (The Nationals have agreed to play an exhibition game at the Naval Academy each of the next

three years.) The game ended in a 4-4 tie in front of cheering Naval Academy midshipmen, who were able to attend the game free of charge.

"We're really excited about our partnership with the Washington Nationals to have an opportunity to showcase the Naval Academy on a national stage," said Admiral Vice Walter E. "Ted" Carter, Jr., 62nd superintendent of the

Naval Academy.

Tickets for this special game were not available to the public. That the Nats and Red Sox distributed complimentary tickets to Naval Academy midshipmen, as well as select members of the U.S. Navy, demonstrated that the team is dedicated to the armed forces community. The game was televised nationally on ESPN.

Office of Planning Must Fulfill its Promise to Protect Neighborhoods, Assess Digital Billboards

The Committee of 100 on the Federal City (C100) is urging the DC Council to budget for additional staff and funds for the Office of Planning (OP) to fulfill the agency's long-standing promises to preserve and protect neighborhood character and to perform a serious, rigorous assessment of the impacts of digital billboards on residents and office workers.

When OP recently radically rewrote the zoning code, staff worked with residents of Georgetown on a customized set of generally applicable zoning rules, supplemented by specific provisions that preserve and protect that neighborhood's character. OP staff promised to work with other neighborhoods to craft appropriate, community-specific zoning, but have failed to do so. "We call on the Council to fund additional OP staff to work with communities to develop specific zoning rules," said Stephen Hansen, chair of C100. "Such customized local zones were promised when the zoning rules were rewritten last year and should follow the model of the 'Georgetown Residential House Zone,' already enacted.

"We note that there are few of these community-specific zones on the eastern side of the District—and none east of the Anacostia River," said Laura Richards who spoke for C100 at Council's Budget Oversight hearings on Monday, April 10. "OP was very anxious to

grant major development increases downtown and across the city in the new regulations. It's time for OP and the mayor to keep their commitment to protect our communities."

On another matter regarding the recent repermitting of the huge digital billboards at Verizon Center, C100 requested additional funds to require OP to hire a contractor to produce a credible report. OP's legislative mandate was to assess the adverse impact of the digital signs on the surrounding neighborhood. Instead, in late 2016 OP produced a skimpy two-and-a-half page, totally inadequate memorandum instead of a properly conducted assessment of these digital signs. The OP document contained no photos, maps, or view shed analysis to show how these billboards affect the nearby work and living conditions; nor did it include any opinion surveys or analysis of changes in property values in the immediate area, or the negative effects on residents at Gallery Place, the MLK Library (southeast corner), the National Portrait Gallery, or the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

"Why does our city government refuse to look at the impacts of these ad-spewing, light polluting machines before reauthorizing them? Mixed use has become mixed abuse at Gallery Place, feeding public cynicism about planning in our city," said C100 Vice Chair Meg Maguire.



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History Task Force Amps Up Website

By: Ryan Pierce,
Chair, History Task Force

The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly's (SWNA's) mission is "to improve the quality of life for all residents; to open to every resident the wide cultural horizon of urban living; to help create rich and equal social, educational, and economic opportunities for residents of Southwest; to assist in providing the opportunity for gainful employment for all; to promote development of the economic and aesthetic potential of Southwest; and preserve its diverse history." That final note about preserving the diverse history is the continual undertaking of the SWNA History Task Force. It is also an important component of other aims of the broader mission: to educate, inform development, and remind residents of the strength of the community that has come through our diverse backgrounds and shared experiences.

The History Task Force was among the original task forces created with the founding of SWNA, highlighting the importance that

remembering our past can have on shaping our future. With that goal in mind the History (or Heritage as it is sometimes known) Task Force has taken on many and varied projects over the years, from assisting with preservation designations and historical surveys, to the creation of the heritage trail and painting of the call boxes. We continue those efforts today around the community, while looking for new ways to engage with our history and better continue to assist in projects we have experience with from past efforts.

As we move into the digital age, one no longer has to search through a book on the shelves of the reference section at the local library to find a wealth of information (though perusing those shelves is still highly recommended for a real chance at finding a hidden gem). In an effort to recognize this shifting landscape and the growing importance of digital resources, the History Task Force has begun to make a more concerted effort to collect useful resources and tools in a central location. This includes links to great offerings from institutions around the

city, as well as studies that SWNA and other local organizations have commissioned about our home here in Southwest. We invite you to visit our website, www.swna.org/swna/task-forces/history-task-force/, and encourage you to take advantage of the wealth of resources collected there.

We will continue to update this site as we learn of new resources and whenever we commission research to contribute. Our goal is to make it as easy as possible to dive into the rich past of Southwest DC. Learn about where the Tiber Island or Greenleaf residences derived their names from, how we were uniquely shaped by urban planning of the 1950s and '60s, or some of the important figures who took up residence here and helped shape our city and country—Supreme Court justices, Civil Rights leaders, elected officials, artists, and many others. Some of this may take you time and a little sleuthing to uncover, but we hope to provide a good spring board to get you started on your journey. So please take advantage and enjoy learning more about the big impact of this little quadrant of DC.

PSA 105

From p. 6

impact of new residents on police resources or whether the Wharf would have its own security contingency. Lt. Robinson addressed this question last month. Officer Smith echoed his answer that they would have personal security at the Wharf but MPD would likely have a special team dedicated to the area. Adjust-

ments are made all the time to correspond to population shifts and crime trends.

Concerns about Daylight Savings Time Offering Greater Opportunities for Criminal Activity

One participant expressed concern that the time change would cause a corresponding increase in criminal activity. Officer Smith noted that traffic would increase because of baseball season and tourism but that it depends on the year as to the impact on

criminal activity.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Thank you again to Officer Smith for agreeing to lead the meeting, to Sgt. Architzel of the Crime Suppression Team for doing without a valued team member for 90 minutes, and to the lieutenant serving as watch commander that night who took the time to relay our request for an officer to cover the meeting. Thank you all for making the meeting possible.



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