

Hirshhorn Reopens Sculpture Garden

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden reopened its sculpture garden to the public on Aug. 17, with the debut of two major outdoor sculptures, which will join the 30 existing modern works in the collection.

In contrast to the movement to tear down statues many have pointed out as honoring America's racist history, these two sculptural works present a way that art relates to our shared human experience, as well as serve as a means to address contemporary political and societal issues.

Huma Bhabha's "We Come in Peace" (2018), is a 12 foot tall multi faced, intersex sculpture. The towering sculpture poses like a prehistoric figure or perhaps a post-apocalyptic monster, to greet visitors at the garden's Mall-side entrance.

Bhabha was Inspired by Robert Wise's 1951 film *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, where an alien emerging from a spaceship that has just landed on the White House lawn utters, "We have come to visit you in peace," while an agitated group of military personnel and civilians prepares to open fire.

See "Hirshhorn," page 13



Courtesy of Tex Andrews - Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden
"Double Candle" immortalizes light, life, and ephemerality in bronze



Courtesy of Author

Above: Every journey starts with a single step

Southwest's Labyrinth: A Path to Meditate

BY REV. RUTH HAMILTON

Did you know the District is home to nine labyrinths, per www.LabyrinthLocator.com? Six of the nine are in Northwest; two in Northeast;

and, one here in Southwest.

On Tuesday, Sept. 15, Westminster Church at 4th and I SW will open to the public to walk the labyrinth—an ancient

See "Labyrinth," page 19

Meet the Candidates

Meet the At-Large Councilmember Candidates at a virtual event available on YouTube and Facebook Live (you must have a Facebook account). Log-in information will be announced on the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly's (SWNA) events page at SWNA.org one week prior to the event. Guests will have an opportunity to ask questions using the chat function to the moderator. All meetings 7-9 p.m. Keep up to date with SWNA events at <https://swna.org>.

Confirmed participants: Monday, September 14

Claudia Barragan
Mario Cristaldo
Vincent Orange
Monica Palacio
Eric Rogers

Ann Wilcox
Moderator: Fenit Nipparel, Reporter,
Washington Post

Tuesday, September 15

Markus Batchelor
Franklin Garcia
Marcus Goodwin
Ed Lazere

Alexander Padro
Moderator: Mitch Ryals, Reporter,
City Paper

Wednesday, September 16

Christina Henderson
A'Shia Howard
Chander Jayaraman
Marya Pickering
Michangelo Scruggs
Moderator: Mike Goodman, Editor in
Chief, The Southwester



ART INSTALLATION PROVIDED CONNECTION WHILE SUNDAY SUPPERS ON HOLD

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NEW PARKLET EXPANDS OUTDOOR DINING OPTIONS IN SOUTHWEST

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SW STRONG!

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COMMUNITY
CALENDAR

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Help Save Lives in the District by supporting The Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund

Donations support outreach and education strategies for young girls and link low-income, uninsured and underinsured women and men with information, screening diagnostic services and counseling. Donate on line at www.tdjbreastcancerfund.org.

The Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund is an all-volunteer award-winning grassroots organization with local, national and global recognition. Our mission is to advocate and improve the overall health and wellness for women and men through outreach, education, and prevention. We promote early detection strategies for breast health and access to the best biomedical and evidence-based complementary therapies to reduce the incidences and mortality rates of breast cancer. Our vision is to save lives, embrace and achieve a world community free of breast cancer.

When donating by mail, please make check or money order payable to the Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund and mail to:

Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund
400 "I" Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024
thelma@tdjbreastcancerfund.org
www.tdjbreastcancerfund.org
(202) 251-1639

Breast Cancer Support Group Continues Successful Virtual Meetings

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

The Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund (TDJBCF) support group's celebration of Black Philanthropy Month (BPM) on Wednesday, Aug. 19, was nothing short of excellent. The event kicked off with an opening from Founder Thelma D. Jones, and was sponsored by Black Benefactors, a giving circle in the metropolitan area. Jones is a founding member of Black Benefactors and a former committee executive. The support group meeting was live streamed on Zoom and the TDJBCF Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/TDJBreastCancerFund>).

Created in 2011 and observed annually in August, BPM is a global celebration and concerted campaign to elevate African descent giving – a campaign that was evident throughout the support group meeting. Emcee and facilitator Lavern Chatman used a balance of professionalism and humor to move the meeting smoothly from start to finish. Chatman, both a former SW resident and Arena Stage board member, spoke fondly of her SW years, including serving on the board of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA), but reassured the audience that even though she had long since relocated to Alexandria, VA, her heart remains in the SW community.

Putting the meeting into context, Chatman invited the audience to share their definition of philanthropy, as well as some of their philanthropic efforts as it related to cancer. SW Resident and Philanthropist Jan Adams, President and CEO, JMA Solutions and guest Linda Nunes Schrag, a Department of Health chronic disease instructor, shared their definitions and philanthropic efforts. Both Adams and Schrag's efforts involved providing support to newly diagnosed breast cancer survivors, including helping one survivor who, along with her entire family of four, had just recuperated from coronavirus. Adams recently joined Philanthropist Reginald "Reggie" Van Lee as a TDJBCF honorary board member (see the July Southwester). Responding to Chatman's question on what inspires her giving, Adams noted that she was an overly generous giver and literally had "to stand in front of the mirror and practice saying "no"! Adams also indicated that because of the volume of requests she receives, JMA Solutions has a team assigned to vet-



ting those requests based on the company's focus areas of interest. She also gives to causes championed by her employees.

In referencing a 2018 article by Tyrone McKinley Freeman of the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, Chatman reminded everyone in the group that they have been a philanthropist at some point in their life "but we rarely think of ourselves as being philanthropists because we've been led (or brainwashed) to believe that you must have a lot of money to give away to become a philanthropist." She reminded everyone that based on Freeman's article, "people of color have deeply rooted traditions of giving that are centuries old spanning the period from slavery to the present but originated in precolonial West Africa." Chatman indicated, still quoting Freeman, that "the Black church still remains the number one place of philanthropic giving for people of color."

"In these very trying times," noted Chatman, "it is so important to know that we still care about giving or paying forward to help make both our race and the world a better place." Using Jones as an example of philanthropy, Chatman highlighted Jones' tireless and selfless volunteer work for ten years with the TDJBCF, and recognized her amazing philanthropic efforts with the Covid-19 relief effort that the Fund does in partnership with River Park Management, James Creek Resident Council, and The SWBID. Since April, Jones and a group of dedicated volunteers have served approximately 10,000 World Central Kitchen meals to the seniors and immunocompromised residents at River Park in SW.

Next, Chatman welcomed introductions from the guests while Jones silently calculated the number of breast cancer

survivors present, the total number of survivorship years exceeded 90, a stark reminder to advances in breast cancer treatment, and evidence that the disease is no longer a death sentence. Chatman then welcomed both Corinne Bombowsky, Senior Community Development Manager, American Cancer Society, Inc. (Northeast Region) and breast cancer survivor Sheri Denkensohn-Trott, co-founder, Happy on Wheels and Team Leader, Undaunted Determination for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer (MSABC) to give an update on the October MSABC walk, which recently had its first ever virtual kick off. Because of the pandemic, how the American Cancer Society (ACS) unites and fights back this fall will look different but ACS's passion to end breast cancer is the same. Bombowsky indicated that this year's MSABC will include a virtual week-long, daily themed activities during Oct. 24-31, as the care of survivors, caretakers, and guests are of utmost importance to ACS. Bombowsky made a rallying call to action for breast cancer survivors to share their stories and journeys. Interested survivors should contact her at WashingtonDCStrides@cancer.org.

Undaunted Determination Team Leader Denkensohn-Trott shared that this year was the tenth anniversary of her breast cancer diagnosis, the tenth anniversary of the TDJBCF Support Group and the goal of raising \$10,000. Denkensohn-Trott extolled the virtues of the TDJBCF Support Group for holding a meeting every month for the past ten years without fail. "Correct me if I'm wrong but I don't think you've (Jones) ever missed a meeting since 2010," asked Denkensohn-Trott (they did miss one when the Metro was closed). "The support group continues to have some of the top people who you would have to pay to see. ...COVID and Cancer are evil," said Denkensohn-Trott emphatically. To date, Undaunted Determination has raised over \$9,000.

Still recognizing guests in the Facebook chat room, Chatman noted that Ronnette Meyers, President & CEO, JLAN Solutions had donated \$100 – an encouraging donation with regards to the meaning of Black philanthropy. Chatman also announced that TJBCF Honorary Board Member Jan Adams "had just donated \$500." Inspired by Adams' donation, Chatman donated a matching gift of \$500 from the Chatman Fund. Not to be out done by her

See "Group," page 6

The Southwester

Send submissions and questions to *The Southwester* by email at editor@thesouthwester.com. Submissions for each monthly issue are due on the 15th of the preceding month.

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Voter Registration Drive

There will be a voter registration drive on Wednesday Sept. 9, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., outside the James Creek Resident Council office (100 N St SW), held in conjunction with the Food Bank distribution that day. The registration drive is organized by Westminster Presbyterian Church with the help of the D.C. Board of Elections. Come register and make sure your vote counts!



Breast Cancer Fund Founder to Be Honored in Virtual Celebration

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

Join the Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund (TDJBCF) virtual support group meeting, Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020, at 6 p.m. via Zoom and TDJBCF Facebook Live (<https://www.facebook.com/TDJBCFBreastCancerFund/>), in celebration of the founding of the TDJBCF and the 68th Birthday of the eponymous Thelma D. Jones.

Jones is also celebrating 13 years of breast cancer survivorship.

The TDJBCF welcomes renowned guest speaker Dr. Kermit A. Crawford, associate professor and chair, Department of Psychology at Hampton University and clinical associate professor emeritus, Boston University School of Medicine. Dr. Crawford is also the former director of the Center for Multicultural Mental Health (CMMH) at Boston University School of Medicine and Boston Medical Center, and the former Psychologist for the National Football League (NFL) assigned to the New England Patriots, among other titles. One of Dr. Crawford's greatest claims to fame is being the former high school classmate of Thelma D. Jones. Dr. Crawford



Courtesy of Author

Above: Dr. Kermit A. Crawford, associate professor and chair, Department of Psychology at Hampton University & clinical associate professor emeritus, Boston University School of Medicine
At right: Lisa Simms Booth, Executive Director, Smith Center for Healing and the Arts



ford will speak on the subject of "Your Strength Unknown, and Beyond."

This special celebration will be emceed and facilitated by Lisa Simms Booth, Executive Director, Smith Center for Healing and the Arts. A former caretaker for her mom who passed from cancer, Simms Booth also served as the Senior Director of Patient and Public Engagement at the Biden Cancer Initiative (BCI) prior to assuming her position at Smith Center.

As for the Breast Cancer Fund founder, Jones herself was trained as a community breast care navigator in integrative

oncology at Smith Center in 2010. She and Simms Booth met several years prior during a BCI Conference at The Wharf, and have since partnered to bring greater awareness of integrative oncology to a broader audience, especially among the historically underserved communities. Simms Booth emceed and facilitated the well-attended virtual July support group meeting (see the July issue of "The Southwester").

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Sundays

Worship - 10:00am
Fellowship - 11:00am

Wednesdays

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First-ever Virtual Scholarship Ceremony is a Scholarly Success

BY AUDREY HINTON, SWNA EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP TASK FORCE MEMBER

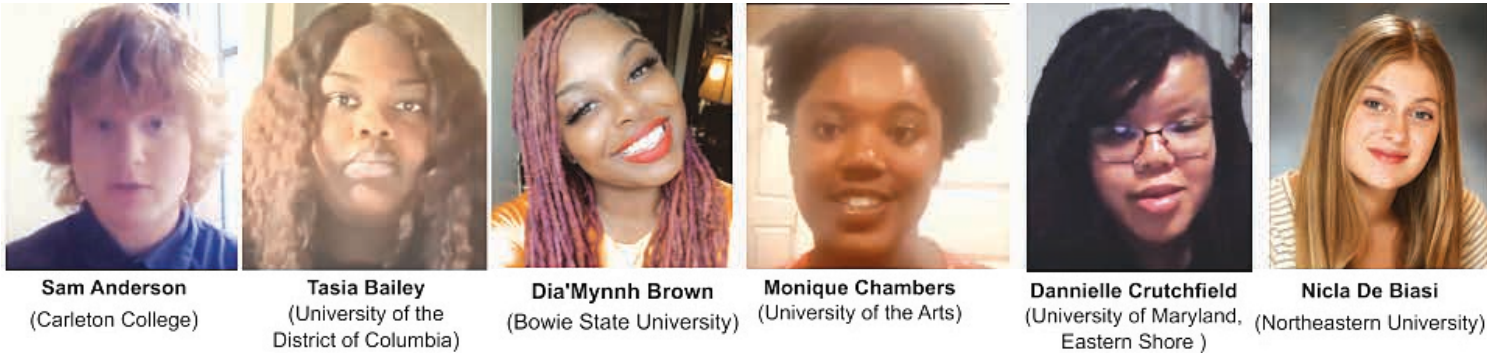
On Sunday, Aug. 2, the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Education and Scholarship Task Force (SWNA ESTF) held its 46th Annual Scholarship Awards Program and awarded \$40,500 in scholarships.

Nearly 150 viewers joined the pre-recorded virtual event, “Supporting Education – Building Community,” as 24 Southwest students shared their college plans and future aspirations in short videos and received college scholarships ranging from \$1,500 to \$3,000. Viewers also watched the awarding of first-time scholarships in memory of three Southwest giants and were invited to attend a virtual VIP reception after the awards program to discuss the impact of SWNA on the lives of students, the Southwest community, and the world.

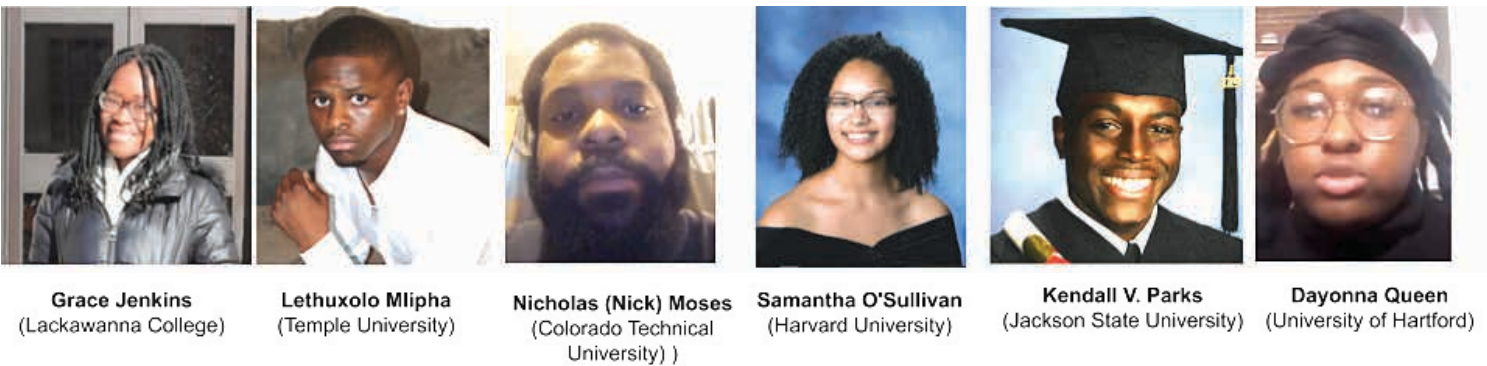
ESTF Chair Vyllorya Evans introduced host Kenneth Ward, a long-time Southwest resident and Executive Director of College Bound, a mentoring program that works with underserved youth. Ward expressed his pleasure in hosting a program that celebrates the Southwest community and creates educational opportunities for Southwest youth. He introduced Phillip O’Sullivan and Jada Miles, two 2020 ESTF scholarship graduates. Phillip graduated from the University of Chicago with a major in U.S. History and minor in Mathematics and will enter Harvard Law School in 2022. Jada, who participated in the College Bound program, graduated from Dean College in Massachusetts and majored in Business Management with a minor in Dance. Viewers watched a video of her exciting tap dance performance, “What’s Going On,” in a face mask, on Black Lives Matter Plaza.

Donna Purchase, SWNA president, and Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) presented SWNA Star Awards to Barbara Murray and Thelma D. Jones, respectively, for their extraordinary service and commitment to the Southwest community. Murray, who lives in South Carolina now, chaired the Scholarship Committee from 1992-2007 and raised \$175,000 that funded 247 scholarships for 103 students. Norton took a moment to remember her colleagues in SNCC and the late Congressman John Lewis (D-GA) before recognizing Jones, who is chair of SWNA’s Youth Activities Task Force, as a person who “exemplifies the traits of Congressman Lewis on a community and citywide level.”

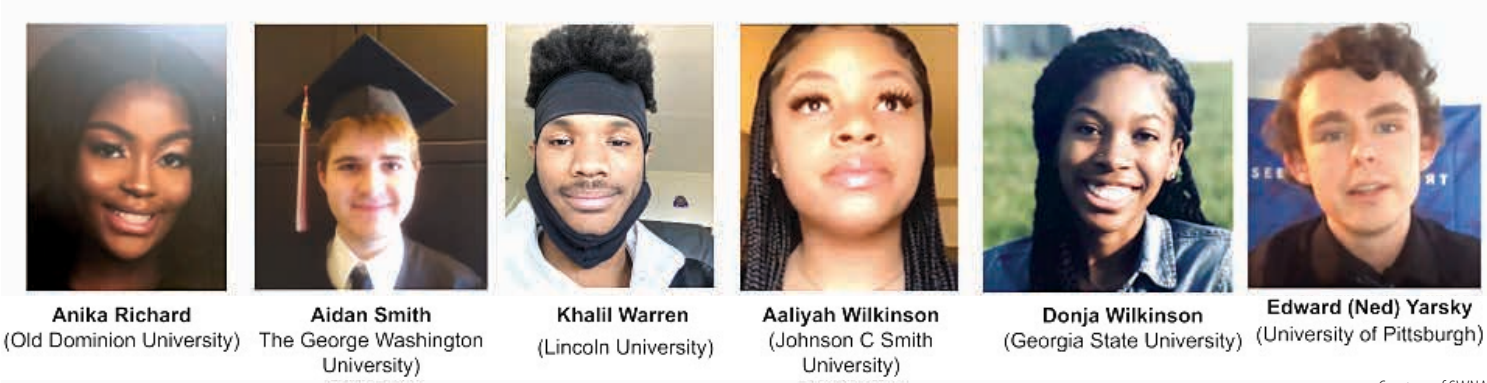
ESTF committee member Bonita V. White spoke passionately about a new ESTF award, the Helena Day Kirkland Scholarship, which is named in honor of her kindergarten teacher. Kirkland was born in Southwest in 1904 and had a 50-year career as an educator in the



2020 SWNA Scholarship Recipients



2020 SWNA Scholarship Recipients



Courtesy of SWNA

D.C. public schools. “Kirkland instilled an unparalleled sense of excellence in all who were privileged to be in her classroom ... and laid the foundation for the successful careers of thousands,” White said. Nicholas (Nick) Moses received the new scholarship for exemplifying Kirkland’s standards of trustworthiness, obedience to elders and parents, reverence to God, and community service. He is a Psychology major at Colorado Technical University and plans to be a teacher.

Thelma D. Jones presented the first-ever Dale MacIver Scholarship to Khalil

Warren, a freshman at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania who plans to major in information technology. MacIver was a long-time Southwest resident who passed away in November 2019. He was editor of *The Southwester* for over 33 years, a philanthropist, and an advocate of paying it forward. “Dale would not have agreed to having an award in his name as he never appreciated the limelight or being the focus of attention,” Jones said, “but he probably would have agreed since the award has a fundraising component.” She closed by presenting a gift card – compli-

ments of Resial “Bay Bay” Shannon, a former scholarship recipient and mentee of Dale MacIver. Jones also presented a \$200 check to SWNA and challenged others to give what they can, “...so that Southwest youth will have a fighting chance in MacIver’s honor.”

Peter Eicher, President of the Friends of Southwest DC (FOS), presented the Coralie Farlee Scholarship to Dannielle Crutchfield. The scholarship was created to honor Farlee, who passed away ear-

Become a Tutor

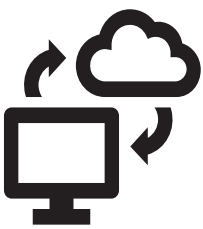


**Amidon-Bowen
Elementary School**



Amidon-Bowen Elementary School needs your help more than ever.
150 Volunteers are needed to help students with
homework and ensure they attend their classes.

How can You help?



If you have a computer or tablet with good internet connection & can
use video conferencing applications such as Zoom or Microsoft
Teams, You Can Help.

Apply to be a Tutor:

- Web: <https://www.communityscholar.org/volunteer>
- Email: friends@communityscholar.org

Learn about the clearance process at <https://www.communityscholar.org/clearance>

GROUP

Continued from p. 2

friend Lavern Chatman, Breast Cancer Survivor and Guest Speaker Maxine Baker announced that she was also donating \$500. Breast Cancer Survivors Angela O. Walker and Winifred Williams also donated \$100 each, making a total of \$1800 in donations.

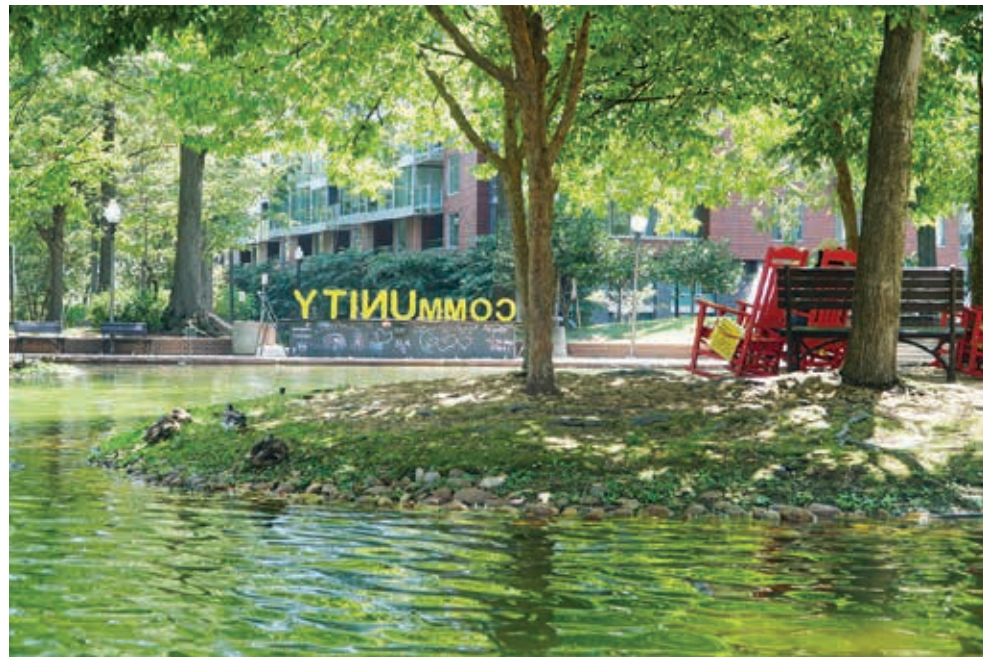
Following all the spirited giving, Chatman introduced Guest Speaker Maxine B. Baker – also a founding member of Black Benefactors and Retired President & CEO at the Freddie Mac Foundation. Baker shared her triple-negative breast cancer diagnosis and journey that happened while single-parenting, and amid her demanding role at the Freddie Mac Foundation. Weaving in parts of her spirituality and faith, Baker shared tips about the importance of making and keeping doctors' appointments, which she never missed; putting oneself first and letting the world around survivors wait; and, giving an example of becoming stressed when a doctor was once 45 minutes late. She advised herself to “settle down; it's a long game and if you get upset early on because you are inconvenienced, you're not going to beat this disease. When they get to me, they get to me; when I get

out, I get out!” Baker further drew an analogy to breast cancer and COVID-19, calmly reminding the group that they will get through it while making the positive changes needed in their lives to cope with the ongoing pandemic.

Chatman entertained questions from the audience and then expressed her gratitude and appreciation for serving again as the emcee and facilitator, saying she looked forward to returning next year in a similar capacity.

Founder Jones acknowledged the many participants who contributed to the meeting's success, especially the platform speakers, the A Team (Technicians Rodney Minor, Sarita Minor and Anthony Venuto) and sponsor Black Benefactors. She also gave a “shout out” to Lashanda Thomas who produced the first TDJBCF inaugural newsletter. Lastly, she invited the audience to join the TDJBCF virtually on Wednesday, Sept. 16, at 6 p.m. for the celebration of the TDJBCF 8th Anniversary and the 68th Birthday Celebration of Jones herself. To view the August meeting, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/TDJBreastCancerFund/>.

Donations to Undaunted Determination are accepted at https://secure.acevents.org/site/STR?pg=entry&fr_id=98019 – click on Undaunted Determination.



Courtesy of SWBID

The commUNITY art project lasted through August, taking the place of the Sunday Suppers

Art Installation Provided Connection While Sunday Suppers on Hold

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

For the past three years, the Southwest Business Improvement District (SWBID) has brought neighbors together for Sunday Suppers, a free community meal hosted each Sunday at the Southwest Duck Pond. This year, the weekly experience of connection was reimagined as a month-long public art piece, inviting the community to engage directly with the installation, enjoy poetry from local writers while at the park, submit poems of their own, and explore digital resources that help connect residents to Southwest's history.

The experience was curated by local artist Beth Ferraro of The Art Island and invited people to share chalk messages directly on the oversized table, representative of the community table from Sunday Supper.

“The commUNITY table physically represented but did not replace our gatherings,” said Beth Ferraro, “we aimed to create a space where everyone had access and could engage when they wanted to. The poetry packets allowed us to slow down and reflect on what community means. The virtual components helped everyone to create their own Sunday Suppers this year.”

The poetry packets attached to rocking chairs all around the park included poems from seven local poets. Online, people can still enjoy curated playlists from two local DJs, peruse a book list of recommended reading to learn more about the Southwest neighborhood and its history, watch relaxing videos of the Southwest Duck Pond Park produced by a local videographer, and access information on local community groups.

“Sunday Suppers has always been



Courtesy of SWBID

Poetry packets, attached to chairs, offered passersby a chance to sit and reflect

about connection, and connection looks a little different this year,” said Lexie Albe, Deputy Executive Director of the SWBID, “While we couldn't safely host suppers in the park for forty neighbors, we wanted to create space for people to express themselves and connect, keeping the spirit of Sunday Suppers alive.”

The installation was in place throughout the month of August. Community members inspired by the installation's poems were invited to participate in a friendly poetry competition each week, with winners receiving gift cards to local restaurants.

For more information, including a full list of the local artists who participated and the winning community poems, please visit www.swbid.org/sundaysuppers.



Southwest AARP Chapter to Host Donna Purchase

On Wednesday, September 16, at noon, the Southwest Waterfront AARP Chapter #4751 will host Donna Purchase, President of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA), at its virtual business meeting. The program will feature a community conversation with Purchase, regarding the latest and greatest that Southwest has to offer, and the ongoing work of SWNA in the community. The conversation can be accessed via the dial-in number of 425-436-6376. The access code is 701215.

Op-Ed: How One Small College Shaped Me, and Our Community

BY THELMA D. (HARPER) JONES

In May 1972, I, Thelma Doris Harper Jones, graduated with both pride and honors from Durham College, a private junior college of business in Durham, NC, with an Associate in Applied Science Degree (AAS). Considering the college's historical background in graduating more than 5000 students from 1947 to 1980, it could be dubbed a "HBJCU" (Historically Black Junior Colleges and Universities). The college was created well before the Civil Rights Act of 1964, educated primarily African Americans and left a rich legacy of matriculating many leaders in the fields of business and many other professions.

While at Durham College, I felt that I gave as much to the school as the school gave to me and was active in student affairs, including serving on the yearbook staff, being the reigning Miss Durham College, and serving as president of the Delta Beta Chi Honor Society. So, it was no surprise that our beloved Paul D. Harrison, Sr., Registrar and Chair, Computer Science Department, who transitioned on Saturday, August 15, 2020, would invite me to babysit for their two young children, Glenda and Paul, Jr. with whom I am still in touch. The Harrisons not only

provided me with a home away from home experience but also welcomed me like a family member. The money earned from babysitting helped tremendously with my college expenses. My parents, Junior Earl and Lizzie Mae Banks Harper, who were struggling sharecropper farmers with eight children, a paternal grandmother, and a paternal great grandfather to feed in one household, were faced with challenging times and rarely sent me any money during my two years of matriculation at the school. Consequently, I once cried like a baby when my parents advised me that they could not afford the next quarter's tuition. I remember it vividly, as it was like being diagnosed with a cancer when they told me in that disappointing voice that "we just don't have the money so you will have to come home," which was not an option for me. The thought of returning to those long hard hours in the hot scorching sun in the tobacco, corn and back-breaking cotton fields was out of the question.

As a result, I took my tears to the Financial Aid Officer and was ultimately awarded a nonpaid work-study and assigned to the Secretarial Science Department with Dr. Rose T. Vaughn with whom I am still in close touch with to this day. Then one

day, Mr. Harrison introduced me to the Speights who were looking for a part-time clerk at their popular Speight's Auto Service Station which was a stone's throw from the school. The kids at school used to tease and ask me if I was pumping gas. While it was embarrassing, I remained undaunted by their constantly teasing me. It turned out that the Speights were from Snow Hill, NC, my hometown, so we had an instant connection. Ms. Theodore Speight Manley would later commend me and say that I had "successfully collected more overdue bills as a part-time clerk in a few months than she had been able to do in the past couple of years." For graduation, the Speights would present me with my first camera which helped to inspire my love for photography and the importance of documenting things.

At graduation, I was awarded the "Best All Around Female Student," among other recognitions, and was poised to assume the world of work in a business arena. By now, and unbeknownst to me, I had begun to develop a deep and abiding sense of gratitude to Durham College and the amazing support system that I had enjoyed. I would eventually become a certified Safe Sitter (babysitter) instructor for the Southwest

Neighborhood Assembly Youth Activities Task Force and would teach more than 80 SW youth and a Girl Scouts Troop from NW to become babysitters. I felt that if babysitting helped me through some challenging times and enabled me to develop a trusting network while earning extra money, I knew that it would help SW youth as well, especially since so many youth are latch-key kids or have to watch their younger siblings. I often attributed my success as an instructor to the real-life experiences that I had as a babysitter while enrolled at Durham College.

Upon graduation, I came to Washington, DC with a deep sense of pride and appreciation in knowing that Durham College had increased my confidence and adequately prepared me for the world of work. I accepted an entry level support position at the World Bank in June 1972 and retired from the World Bank Group in 2005 as one of the principal founders of the World Bank's institutional outreach program. Serving as the voice of the World Bank in the local community, I carried out the World Bank's poverty reduction mission in the areas of education reform, youth employment, homelessness, and volun-

See "Op-Ed," page 18



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KID'S CORNER

Each month check out the most recent issue of the paper for activities and games to help you discover SWDC! Have a suggestion? Email us: editor@thesouthwester.com. Check out next month's issue for the answers!

Spot the difference!

Can you spot the differences in the two scenes below?



Answers from August 2020 issue

Differences: The picture on the right has 5 ducks; the picture on the right has yellow fish; the picture on the left has a frog where the picture on the right has a seahorse; the frog in the right picture is wearing a hat; the starfish are different colors; the picture on the left has a purple fish.

Word Scramble: There are 98 words you can make from "baseball."

WORD SEARCH: FALL!

L	C	C	D	W	J	D	V	R	L	R	V	Z	A	S
V	E	V	B	Z	D	R	H	C	C	O	O	U	T	M
J	R	A	G	N	N	S	J	H	I	P	D	Q	T	D
M	V	U	F	J	T	M	I	Z	R	I	L	C	Q	M
G	N	I	T	A	E	L	U	O	S	L	E	X	G	X
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Z	W	O	K	Y	F	O	Z	S	U	K	F	C	J	C
T	R	E	E	S	C	C	U	Z	E	A	L	G	H	Y
I	F	L	R	J	N	G	R	W	T	U	O	U	U	J
A	B	A	F	U	A	N	U	M	R	N	W	E	F	C
S	K	K	I	K	Y	T	S	K	P	M	E	Q	M	A
E	J	A	K	H	W	W	E	J	U	O	R	W	F	G
F	N	R	Y	H	I	N	U	W	K	O	S	A	F	U
E	O	P	A	J	J	J	L	I	Y	R	I	M	O	L
N	H	L	H	W	A	G	E	L	M	B	K	K	X	W

AUTUMN
BROOM
CHILLY
COLOR
EATING

FLOWERS
LEAF
PILE
RAKE
TREES

Word Scramble!

How many words can you make from LEARNING?

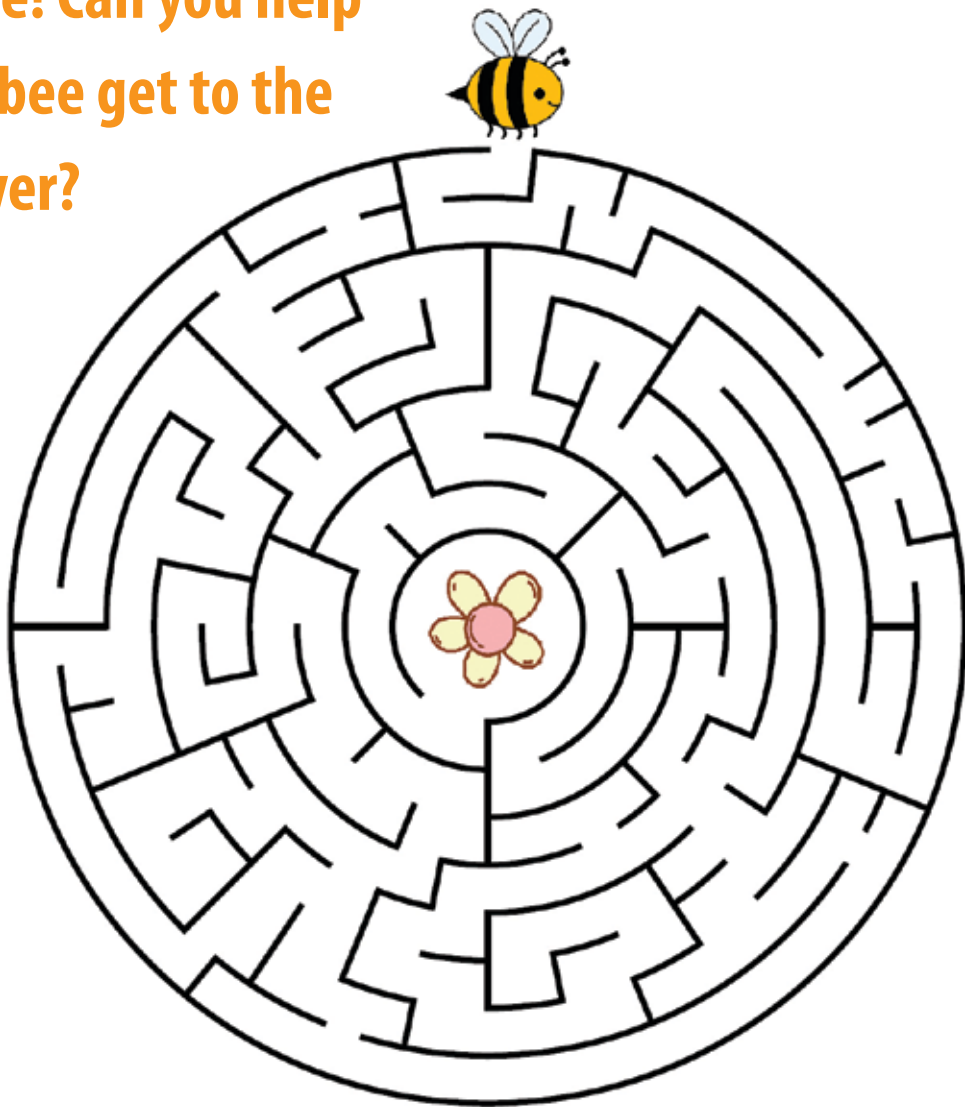
This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for writing or drawing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



KID'S CORNER

SUMMERTIME EXTRA!

Maze! Can you help the bee get to the flower?



TIC TAC TOE

Jokes!

Why does Humpty Dumpty love autumn?
Because he always has a great fall!

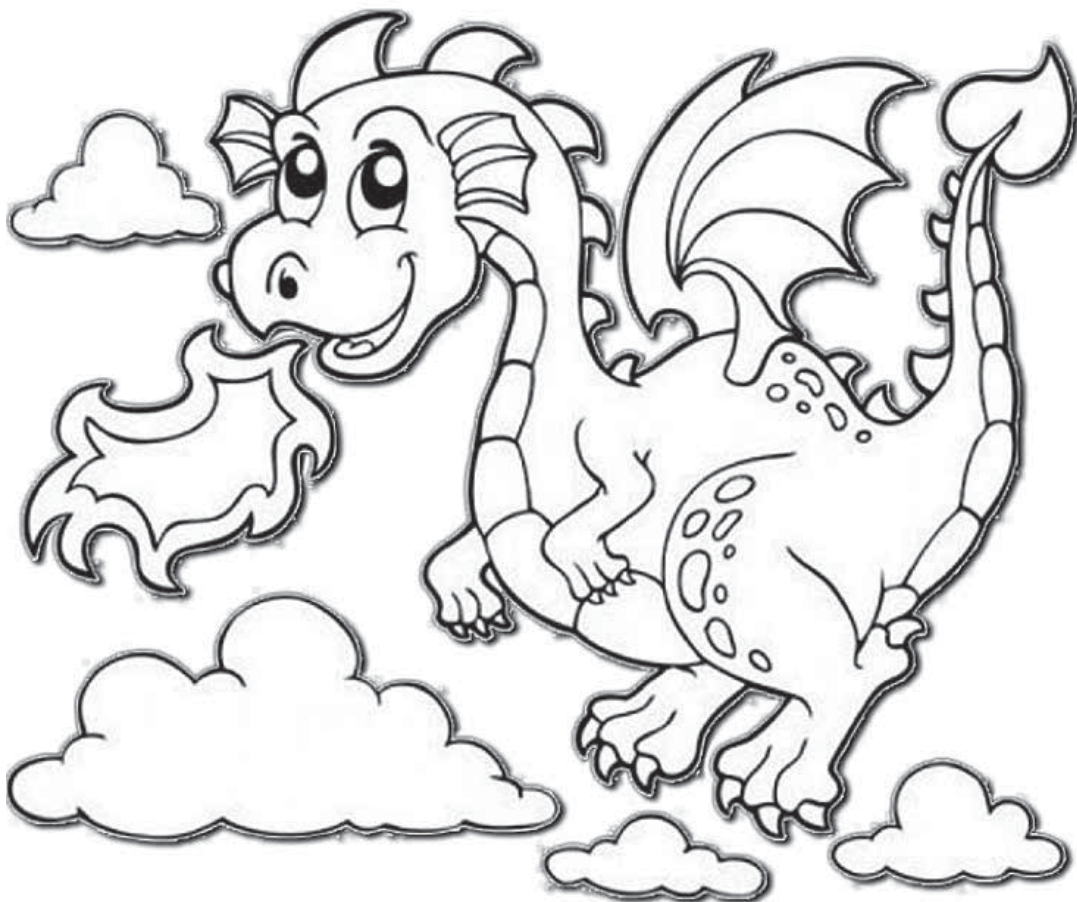
What is harder to catch the faster you run?
Your breath!

What is fast, loud and crunchy?
A rocket chip!

Would you like to submit a joke for Kid's Corner? Email it to editor@thesouthwester.com.

Include your first name so we can tell other kids who sent it in!

Coloring Time!



Math Moment!

Can you complete these equations?

- a. $6 + 6 =$
- b. $12 + 5 =$
- c. $10 - 5 =$
- d. $20 + 20 =$
- e. $9 - 9 =$
- f. $35 + 2 =$
- g. $10 + 15 =$
- h. $2 \times 4 =$

SOUTHWEST DUCK POND’S COMMUNITY, IN VERSE



DC United

In ten years I don’t know where I will be
But wherever I go I know that I will have soccer is with me
The sport that shatters barriers and embraces diversity
The sport that is very much like the MY city DC

We live in times where backgrounds, beliefs, and politics can be divisive
Where the news can confuse and make a community feel indecisive
But DC, like soccer, is a space where we are all united
And to get excited, where collaboration is demanded and invited

A city that passes and moves to make space for the ball
A city that will stand tall will protest to fight a bad call
A city of 3 a days, hustle, early morning and late practices
A city of movers and shakers, debaters, floppers and actresses
A city of teamwork makes the dreamwork
From traffic to footwork
A city of network and network
From Anacostia to Petworth
A city of cultures merged together, with one goal: to win
A city where loss feels like a cheap shot to the shin
A city of the nation’s capital that is international
A city of the level headed rational and the radical
From corner kicks to slide tackles
Where movements are magical
A city of history, mistakes, growth, and pain
A city of misery, laughs, joy and gains
A city of mystery and layers

A city of coaches and players
A city that is a glaring reflection of me
A city that is a glaring reflection of WE
10 years ago I didn’t know where I would be
But right now I’m in a city that embraces diversity
We live in times where backgrounds, beliefs, and politics may be divided
But DC, like soccer, is a space where we are all can feel united

By Charity Blackwell
Instagram: @CharityJoyceBlackwell
Website: www.CharityBlackwell.com

The Southwest Duck Pond’s commUNITY art project includes packets of poems on the rocking chairs throughout the park. “The Southwester” is proud to feature one poem from each artist that participated in the project.

dc

yung manny and pocket beats
T-Mobile selling GOGO CDs
cherry blossoms on the mall
murals down H st
Horace and dickies
mumbo sauce with a 6 piece
next stop waterfront
Captain White’s
the oil man be everywhere

By Dahvi Walker
Instagram: @dahviswalker

Watercolor Party

A burst of brightness
greet the Randall Rec Center
every week – an impromptu
community of artists
who playfully claim they can’t draw.
Even in a pandemic,
this group of retirees
and young professionals
are unabashedly prolific,
gathering weekly over Zoom
to joke and laugh
at how water never does
what you ask it to.
The weeks flow forward
in still-life sketches
of purple garlic and green peppers,
windswept fields
of gamboge-colored poppies,
hills covered with sienna grass,
and cerulean seas that ripple out
in waves across the days.
A virtual gathering of friends
who splash in the water together,
and leave each day a little more colorful.

By Jonathan Lewis
Instagram: @jgoeslewis

SW DC ACTION POEM #2

Bottle the air
between when a firework’s fuse is lit
and that first pop-fizz.

Folks know what happens next—
hoot and holler, sulfur—
that part is easy.

Remember the not-knowing scent
and salt-sweat.

Love who you are before
the sky fills with stars of your making.

2020 summer
after Yoko Ono

By Sandra Beasley
Twitter: @SandraBeasley
www.SandraBeasley.com

Before Duck Pond, Cow Alley for Southwest DC

Before Constitution Avenue,
Washington City Canal.
And, before that, Tyber Creek.

In my neighborhood, we say
there must once have been a river
where the avenue runs; we’re haunted
by its flooding ghost during hard rain.

But the city is like that-
written and rewritten.
Before Duck Pond, Cow Alley.
Before Tyber Creek, Goose Creek.

Now the geese swim in the reservoir.
Sometimes, we build a church
where the church used to be.

By Jacquelyn Bengfort
www.JaciB.com
Instagram: @scratchpaperpoem

Act like you LOVE me

Act like you LOVE me
Act like you have the lead roll at Arena Stage
Act Like Hellen Hayes sent you a handwritten letter
Detailing the direction of your love to me with sound cues and lighting
Act like our costumes match
Buy the way you don’t need make-up because you are beautiful
Your headshot should hang in the Kennedy Center
Or better yet, there should be a statue erected of you at the Carta Barron
So you can have the sun shine on you everyday
You are kissed by the sun
I want our love to last longer than Massachusetts Ave
I want to swim the Anacostia and Potomac rivers with you
Ok made maybe a boat ride on the river because I am not the greatest swimmer
I want to learn to swim with you
I want to learn who you are
I want to study you like a well written play
I want to be your #2 pencil
You are “A Raisin in the Sun”
Let grow grape vines in Marvin gay park
Act like you love me.

By John Johnson
John@verbalgymnastics.com
Instagram: @verbalgymnastics

The Living Community

What would I be without a wave from a neighbor as I’m on my way?
A watchful eye letting me know that I’m seen
and cared for.
The market that makes sure I get an extra something
Each time I stop in.
Each person I pass smiles,
greeting me as the day greets the morning.

These people are sunshine on dark days.
They have seen me through hard times
with kind words,
sage wisdom,
and a bite to eat.
Evenings filled with talks over fences
have led to laughter and clarity.
I am here because they are here.

No matter where we are,
be it in our homes or far from them,
we are each other’s backbone.
Our bonds are bigger than the buildings we occupy
and streets we live on.
The lessons of love and kindness learned from them
are always in my heart
and imparted on all wherever I go.

By Vernon Preston
Instagram: @VFresh10

D.C. STORM Safely Tours Hampton Roads During COVID-19

BY TYLIL FRAIZER, NARDO HOPKINS,
MICHAEL JOHNSON, AND BRIAN JACKSON
(RISING 8TH GRADERS)

On July 17, DC STORM, Inc. (Student Taught Organization and Respect through Mentoring) traveled with 14 group members to the Hampton Roads Area of Virginia for an Educational/College tour and returned on July 19. The funds for the tour were provided by the Friends of Southwest D.C.

The state of Virginia was in Phase 3 of the pandemic at the time. Group leaders Jay Shorter, John Smith, and Ronald Hines kept all the activities COVID-19 freely maintaining social distancing and keeping the D.C. STORM out of areas where they may have been in contact with other people. They were also given masks and told to wear them at all times by the staff of D.C. STORM.

The group traveled in two 15-passenger vans which provided lots of room for everyone. All the meals were either delivered or group leaders drove out to get food. Group members ate all their meals in the hotel or outside under the cool trees.

STORM visited the Nauticus Museum, but unfortunately most of the areas were closed. The museum did, however, allow them to climb on board the USS Wisconsin Battleship, where they got to see how naval personnel lived on board.

D.C. STORM also visited the campuses



Courtesy of Jay Shorter

D.C. Storm visits the USS Wisconsin Battleship

of Norfolk State University, Old Dominion University, Hampton University, and Virginia Beach Higher Education Center. The college campuses were empty, which gave them an opportunity to walk around and see the schools' facilities and get a sense of how large each of the campuses were.

On the Hampton University campus, the group had a chance to climb on the Emancipation Oak Tree. The Emancipation Oak Tree is historic and designated as one of the 10 Greatest Trees in the

World, according to the National Geographic Society. The tree is where Mary Smith Peake taught up to 50 children during the day and 20 adults at night during slavery. In 1863, the Black community gathered under the oak to hear the reading of Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, which led to the old tree earning its nickname as the Emancipation Oak. An old log cabin also sits near the famous oak.

For fun, the group visited a park in Chesapeake, Virginia where they played basketball. The park was mostly empty, giving the members of STORM a chance to run around and have fun.

D.C. STORM, Inc. appreciates the funding the Friends of Southwest DC provided for this historic trip. STORM members needed this trip to get out of the house, learn some new facts about history, and to have some fun. Thanks to the Friends of Southwest D.C.!



Courtesy of Jay Shorter

A good place to social distance at the Emancipation Oak Tree



Homes of the Southwest Waterfront

A celebration of Southwest DC

The Waterfront Village's Home Tour has gone Virtual!

The event highlights our neighborhood and will be broadcast on YouTube on Sundays October 11, 18 and 25

My Favorite Place in the Neighborhood Contest

What is your favorite spot in Southwest? Tell us about your special location in 25 words or less and win great prizes!



Waterfront Village, a SW neighborhood non-profit, helps active older adults age in place by providing social engagement and critical services.

For contest details and to get more information about registering for the Homes of the Southwest Waterfront Virtual Tour, please call 202-656-1834 or visit our website at: www.dewaterfrontvillage.org

Photo of the Month Winner: *Shelby Poage*



A golden sunset at Southwest Park near Titanic Memorial

If you would like to submit a photo for consideration for Photo of the Month, please email it to editor@thesouthwester.com.

Sunset Cinema at The Wharf

The Wharf has teamed up with Cantina Bambina to offer Sunset Cinema at The Wharf, a weekly outdoor movie screening under the stars. Please see the full details below:

Date: Thursday Nights (until 9/24)

Time: Seating at 7:30 PM, Movies start at 8:00 PM on a big screen on the floating stage

Where: Transit Pier at The Wharf - Cantina Bambina

HOW TO ATTEND:

Make a reservation through Cantina Bambina for a cabana. (Max of 6 people per cabana). Make a reservation at <https://resy.com/cities/dc/cantina-bambina?date=2020-08-22&seats=2>.

It is \$10 to reserve a spot for each attendee. Upon arrival you will receive a serving of popcorn and Pacifico beer.

There is a \$20 minimum spend per person, the \$10 reservation fee counts towards that. Menu items include sandwiches from Grazie Grazie, pizza from Union Pie and Lupo Marino.

This event is for 21+

SEPTEMBER MOVIES:

9/3 Crazy Rich Asians

9/10 Dirty Dancing

9/17 Hidden Figures

9/24 Jumanji: Next Level

Youth Car Wash Fundraiser

BY THELMA D. JONES

As the fall weather creeps in, and the summer storms subside, your car may need to be washed by someone other than Mother Nature. So,

why not help a good cause and get your car washed by a group of enthusiastic community youth trying to make a difference in their lives? Mark your calendars and join the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Youth Activities Task

Force (SWNA YATF) on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (rain date Saturday, Sept. 19) for our first-ever car wash fundraiser.

The car wash will be held in the parking lot at Westminster Presbyterian Church at

400 I St. SW, Washington, D.C., located in the rear of the church (entrance off McKemie Place, SW). Donations of \$15 or more per car or vehicle are accepted for having your car or vehicle washed.



The fundraiser will help fund YATF's proposed project in creating and painting a future mural (location to be confirmed) and a photography class that will enable the youth to photograph their everyday living. If you would

like to volunteer as a team member of the car wash, please email Thelma D. Jones at thelma.d.jones@outlook.com or call (202) 251-1639.

A special thanks to Westminster Presbyterian Church for allowing YATF the use of their space for the car wash fundraiser!

New Parklet Expands Outdoor Dining Options in Southwest

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

The Southwest Business Improvement District (SWBID) has worked with the restaurants along 4th Street to convert parking spaces into outdoor seating, allowing for more dining options to help local restaurants during this difficult time. Since the onset of



Courtesy of Jessie Himmelrich

Converted parking spaces along 4th Street SW will give restaurants more socially-distanced space to host guests



Masala Art, Momo Chicken and Grill, Station 4, and Subway. All restaurants are open for dine-in and takeout, and now all restaurants have outdoor dining! Momo Chicken and Grill, Station 4, and Subway are open for lunch and dinner, and Masala Art is open for dinner.

the pandemic, all of the restaurants along 4th Street have seen declines in sales.

The parking lane in front of 1101 4th St. has been replaced with a parklet dining area. The space will span the parking lane from outside of Station 4 to the alley adjacent Masala Art.

"With outdoor dining being the safest option for patrons, we wanted to support our 4th Street restaurants by securing more outdoor space for them," said Jessie Himmelrich, Associate Director of Public Space, "DDOT has been an excellent partner to us in shepherding this work through."

Participating restaurants include

way are open for lunch and dinner, and Masala Art is open for dinner.

"We are excited to get back to a little more of what hospitality is. We missed that real connection with our guests, as you don't get this from takeout and delivery," said Rose Kim, Momo Chicken and Grill owner. "We will do everything we can to keep our guests and staff members safe while they are enjoying food outdoors as our main focus is to make it, under any circumstances, as an enjoyable experience as possible."

The parklet will be in place through October, with an option to extend the converted space if a need for outdoor dining continues.

HIRSHHORN

Continued from p. 1

Using humor to pinpoint the intersection of science fiction, archaic expression, and modernist form, Bhabha mixes the familiar with the foreign to pose questions on the contradictory and complicated relationship with what is alien.

Monumental sculptures for outdoor spaces to stage large-scale meditations on nature, war, and civilization's past are most often cast in bronze. Bhabha created this towering (first ever) hand-carved sculpture in cork and Styrofoam, then cast it in bronze. The diverse medium evokes qualities of both brokenness and resilience.

Also rendered in bronze is Sterling Ruby's "DOUBLE CANDLE" (2018). The twinned totems of towering 24 foot tall candles uses "one of sculpture's heaviest, most lasting and traditional materials to capture and hold the ephemeral and fleeting moment of flickering light."

Ruby has explained his work as simultaneously identifiable and abstract. Located by a reflecting pool, which "mirrors the multitude of meanings and emotions" – they



Courtesy of Tex Andrews - Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden

"We Come in Peace" greets visitors to the Hirshhorn sculpture garden

stand for loss as well as love, celebrating light and the eternal, while motioning towards an expiration." Like beacons they stand "a resolute yet melancholic presence to call to national memory and unity."

In a collection which includes Auguste Rodin's "The Burghers of Calais," Jacques Lipchitz's "Figure," or Henry Moore's "King and Queen," these two recent works suggest new ways of understanding sculpture with "a sense of a new kind of monumentality."

"We Come in Peace" and "DOUBLE CANDLE," located in the uniquely situated Hirshhorn Sculpture Garden, amidst the museums on the National Mall, also offer a renewed opportunity for diverse interdisciplinary conversations related to American politics, history, and culture.

The Hirshhorn Sculpture Garden, one of over a dozen gardens on the National Mall, is open from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily. For more information about what to expect when visiting go to hirshhorn.si.edu. While the Smithsonian Institution Museums on the Mall remain closed, the Enid A. Haupt Garden and other outdoor exhibits are open. More information can be found at <https://gardens.si.edu/exhibitions/habitat/>

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Fundraiser to Supply at-risk Students with School Supplies Ongoing

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

By the time you read this, school will have started up again in The District and students will be back in classrooms. Not their typical classrooms, though. Instead, they will be returning the classrooms they finished the 2019-2020 school year in: their homes.

At the end of July, due to the ongoing spread of the coronavirus, Mayor Muriel Bowser and DCPS Chancellor Lewis Ferebee announced that all DCPS schools would be virtual until at least Nov. 6., with the hope that schools can safely open up for the second term on Nov. 9.

However, while students and their families will be safer from infection distance learning at home, the new normal for parents and students presents another major hurdle to fair and equitable education this fall: the digital divide.

The digital divide is the gap between those who have access to not only the technology required to succeed in the 21st century but also high-speed internet to effectively use that technology, and those who do not. Currently, 1 in 4 District residents does not have access to technology and broadband. This means that thousands of students will be left in

the virtual dark this fall when distance learning starts. Furthermore, the digital divide disproportionately affects Black and Brown students over white students, with 27% of Black students and 25% of Latinx students in D.C. not having quality access to the internet at home, if at all. Only 5% of white students are similarly affected.

As Grace Hu, a DCPS parent, wrote in the June issue of "The Southwester": Much of DC Public School (DCPS) curriculum, testing, and remediation programs are now online. Applying to jobs, city services, and maintaining many connections with our neighborhood, friends, and family are done online. Many independent reports show that high-speed internet access has a direct impact on jobs and the economy.

Earlier this summer, DCPS families were asked to fill out a survey detailing their technology needs for the upcoming school year, and according to city officials, 44% of the 13,000 families that filled out a survey indicated that they did not have access to a digital device, and 23% did not have access to a hotspot or reliable high-speed internet. Response to the survey was low, and ironically it was also online so the numbers likely do not reflect the

actual technology needs in D.C.

In response to the lack of action taken by elected officials, D.C.'s Ward 6 Mutual Aid (W6MA) Network, Serve Your City launched the **We Keep Us Safe Back to School Bash** supply drive to help ensure more students get the resources they need to be successful with virtual learning this fall, and beyond.

Maurice Cook, executive director of Serve Your City and an organizer with Mutual Aid, said, "We are putting together a truly comprehensive backpack that gives our Black and Brown students access to the same supplies that their white counterparts will receive or already have. These learning tools will empower our students to excel in school without worrying about the basics. It is unethical and immoral that our city leaders aren't doing this already."

Through donations, Serve Your City will provide students with backpacks that include a digital device, traditional school supplies, personal protective equipment, cleaning and sanitary supplies, and some fun activities/surprises.

To find out more about how to donate or get involved, visit <http://dcbactoschoolbash.com/index.html>.



Waterfront Village Board Match Challenge

Waterfront Village, a SW neighborhood non-profit, helps active older adults age in place by providing social engagement and critical services.

COVID-19 created unanticipated risks for Village members, requiring new Village services and digital programming.

The Village needs your help. The Village's Board of Directors will match your donation dollar for dollar through September 15.

To make a donation or get more information about Waterfront Village, call 202-656-1834 or visit our website at: www.dewaterfrontvillage.org

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SOUTHWEST MOMENTS



Courtesy of Mike Goodman
*Double rainbow
must mean good
luck at River Park
August 13*



Courtesy of Susie Humphreys
*Finally, the last tall
crane of the Wharf
soared above the
trees...and neither
men fell off!*

 GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Comprehensive Meal Sites in Ward 6

These locations will serve meals to anyone under 18.

(Updated 8/18/20)

Location	Address	Ward	Meal Distribution Hours (Monday - Friday)	Grocery Distribution (while groceries last)
Arthur Capper Recreation Center	1000 5th Street SE	6	9 am – 2 pm	
Amidon-Bowen Elementary School	401 I Street SW	6	10 am – 2 pm	
Eastern High School	1700 East Capitol Street NE	6	10 am – 2 pm	Monday 10:00 – 11:30 am
Friendship Chamberlain PCS	1345 Potomac Avenue SE	6	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 am – 11:30 am	
Howard University Middle School of Math and Science PCS	Outside of Shaw Metro Station	6	12 pm – 1 pm	
King Greenleaf Recreation Center	201 N Street SW	6	9 am – 2 pm	
Miner Elementary School	601 15th Street NE	6	10 am – 2 pm	
Rosedale Recreation Center	1701 Gales Street NW	6	9 am – 2 pm	
Sherwood Recreation Center	640 10th Street NE	6	9 am – 2 pm	
Walker-Jones Education Campus	1125 New Jersey Avenue NW	6	10 am – 2 pm	

Southwest Meditates Virtually as Pandemic Continues

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

Throughout most of the nation, and across the District, much of the relied upon programming at places of spiritual refuge and worship was put on hold at the beginning of COVID-19. While the pandemic is ongoing, our spaces of spiritual refuge are having to virtualize their services and programming.

One of the most iconic features of Southwest's cultural life is the programming at the Westminster Presbyterian Church on I Street. The church's weekly jazz and blues shows are known throughout Washington. But according to a church leader at Westminster, like many places of worship in Southwest, the church had to make the difficult decision of putting its in-person programming on a "permanent hold" until they can assure the congregation's safety.

The historic church, founded in 1853, has shifted entirely to online programming, both for worship services and its weekly programming. Co-pastor Ruth Hamilton told "The Southwester" she and the congregation prefer Zoom services to streaming, as they can see each others' faces. While events like the jazz and blues shows cannot feasibly pivot to an online format, other programs, such as Resistance Bible Study and film night, have been able to continue virtually.

The impact of temporarily halting the music programs extends beyond the walls of Westminster. Admission to the events – \$5 at the door and extra if you want din-



Courtesy of meditation-dc.org

Gen Kalsang Demo deep in meditation

ner – pays the musicians. However, with in-person capacity limited to 50 people, the church would not be able to cover those costs, according to Hamilton. Normally, between 200 and 250 attend the shows. Westminster has a link on its webpage where the community can donate to musicians in need. Hamilton said the church hopes to start partial in-person programming soon.

Next month, Hamilton and her husband and co-pastor Brian hope to begin a small in-person Sunday worship service with a Zoom component. Hamilton says they are planning to adapt their labyrinth walk – an "ancient spiritual ritual" involving a "pathway" that "people use as a tool for meditation" – to current safety requirements. Instead of bringing in a live musician, she says, the church will "play

some meditative music" from speakers as people walk the labyrinth.

Westminster also hopes to coordinate with the Capital Area Food Bank to embark on a voter registration drive in James Creek Apartments in September. Narcotics Anonymous has also been on pause at Westminster but meetings may resume soon.

A few blocks away, Kadampa Buddhist Meditation Center (KMC) has experienced similar disruptions in its regularly-scheduled programming and community outreach. The temple had to adapt its traditional approach to classes amid pandemic-related shutdowns, but resident teacher Gen Kelsang Demo told "The Southwester" that, in addition to the downsides of the pandemic, "there are some aspects of this that are good." She says ease of access for people who join the temple in meditation has been a factor helping the transition to the new format.

KMC was founded in 1995 in Northwest D.C. The temple moved to its current building in Southwest in 2016, and in 2017 Demo came to the District from Washington state to help the new location get started. Before the pandemic, KMC hosted classes both in the temple and at so-called branches throughout the Washington area. For now, Demo says the temple has moved to an entirely virtual format and is focusing on reorganizing the entire space for when they eventually feel prepared to reopen.

KMC has not seen a decrease in inter-

est in any of its classes. In fact, many of the temple's public meditation classes "have been just as well attended," if not better. Demo explained that many community members have been looking for new ways to cope with "additional and unusual stresses" as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and other tensions.

While stress and coping have been prominent emotions in Demo's classes, she says there is a new energy and enthusiasm from both new and returning attendees. Since attendees don't need to "be Buddhist to practice any element of Buddhist teaching," many have sought out KMC to hear more about the Buddhist understanding of "more philosophical" topics such as death. In addition to learning Buddha's "extensive teachings on the death process, and how to use an awareness of our death to live a more full and meaningful life," attendees "will also learn a special Buddhist prayer and meditation practice called Powa," according to KMC's website. Normally, Demo says, "those topics aren't as popular."

Demo says this is an "impactful, thought-provoking time on many levels," and "outlets" people used to have "aren't options for them right now." More people are "retrospective" or "introspective" about their lives, and are looking for "peace" in a time when so much feels "out of control." In coping with the stressors and tensions of 2020, she says it is important to learn to "use the mind to our advantage rather than our disadvantage."

SW Mutual Aid Continues Serving Up Food to Needy Families

BY MAX GROSSMAN AND CARLEE BROWN

Ward 6 Mutual Aid (W6MA) is an all-volunteer grassroots group working with Black and Brown community organizations to help keep our communities safe. Over the past six months, the Southwest Pod of W6MA has partnered with Christ United Methodist Church on a community food and supply drive to serve our neighbors in response to COVID-19. In addition, thanks to the continued generosity of our Southwest neighbors, who donate items at the Southwest Farmers Market on Saturdays, we also distribute fresh produce on Sunday mornings between 9-10:30 a.m.

Interested in ways to help? There are several ways to show your support:

Donate groceries and supplies. Come say hi and consider donating fresh produce bought at the Southwest Farmer's Market on Saturdays between 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Contribute to our "Back to School Bash." W6MA is working to ensure Ward 6 students have the resources they need to be successful as they start their school year. Alongside partner organization



Courtesy of Author

The volunteers of Ward 6 Mutual Aid organizing the goods

Serve Your City, we are providing backpacks that include digital devices, school supplies, personal protective equipment, and fun activities/surprises. Please visit <http://dcbacktoschoolbash.com> for more

information.

Provide or help make masks. Masks are and will continue to be the best barrier to prevent the spread of the virus and keep Southwest safe! If you are interested in

donating masks, sewing masks, or assembling pre-cut masks, please email lizmariapen@gmail.com. We are in particular need of kids masks.

Volunteer. The Southwest Pod of W6MA is also seeking volunteers to help staff our local food pantry and help with our farmer's market tabling and food distribution. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact karenlmcmamus@gmail.com.

Those in the community seeking assistance can access goods and services through the following means:

If you or someone you know has a critical need, call the **Ward 6 Mutual Aid Hotline** at **202-683-9962**. You can request food, masks, cleaning supplies, and other goods for delivery.

Obtain **fresh produce** from W6MA's community drive on **Sundays** from **9-10:30 a.m.**, at the Christ United Methodist Church (900 4th St. SW; use courtyard entrance near library).

Obtain **groceries** from the Christ United Methodist Church's 5000 Ministry Food Pantry on the **1st and 3rd Saturdays** of the month from **9-11 a.m.** (courtyard entrance).

SW Strong! to Put on Disaster Preparedness Festival

BY BEN CURRAN

Please join us! Our community group SW Strong! is virtually hosting “Weather the Storm: the SW DC Disaster Preparedness & Resiliency Building Festival” to celebrate National Disaster Preparedness Month on Sept. 24, 12-4 p.m., and on Sept. 25, 9-12 p.m.

Before the Covid-19 pandemic changed all of our lives, we planned to hold the Festival in conjunction with the SW Farmers’ Market. Now, it’s a...you guessed it. A Zoom event!

We have organized stimulating and informative workshops with nationally recognized experts who discuss COVID-19, food security, financial first aid, and climate change in the District. Please see the program for details.

As a reminder, SW Strong! is a SW-based Emergency Preparedness Task Force that, together with several other task forces, makes up the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA).

We are committed to promoting individual, family, and community emergency preparedness and resilience in SW Washington D.C. We accomplish this through organizing emergency preparedness and community resilience literature drives, community exercises, focus groups, children’s activities, and



Courtesy of Jay Davis

SW Strong! Volunteers getting ready for the September Disaster Preparedness & Resiliency Building Festival (From left-right: Jogi Premkumar, Bianca Kersellus, Ben Curran, Seamus Curran, Regina Blye, Jay Davis)

several informal presentations on a wide variety of disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and community resilience topics that includes the complex issue of climate change.

Please see www.swna.org for more information on SW Strong! our group, and we hope to see you online for “Weather the Storm: the SW DC Disaster Preparedness & Resiliency Building

Festival.”

EVENTBRITE LINK: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/weather-the-storm-emergency-preparedness-resiliency-building-festival-tickets-117147059007>

CEREMONY

Continued from p. 4

lier this year, and FOS, the organization she founded that contributed \$51,000 to the scholarship program over the past 20 years. “Coralie was a giant in our quadrant of D.C.,” Eicher said, “especially through the broad range of nonprofits she participated in and supported.” Crutchfield is a senior at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore studying agriculture with a concentration in pre-vet and animal sciences. Eicher said he was honored to present the scholarship to such an inspirational and talented young woman who has a lot in common with Coralie. “Both are self-starters, worked hard to finance their college educations, believe in the need to be involved in peace, freedom and social justice, and found time in their lives for the arts,” he said.

Eicher also presented five, \$1500 scholarships on behalf of FOS. “Over the years, this has been our largest single grant. We have been honored to participate in the SWNA program, which helps young people achieve their dreams of higher education.” The recipients, selected by FOS for their grade point averages, number and scope of their extra-curricular activities, work experience, sterling letters of recommendation, and community service, are: Steven Guo, Eleanor Holt, Sydney King, Anika Richard, and Aidan Smith.

ESTF members Audrey Hinton and

John White presented scholarships to the remaining 16 scholars. They praised the students for their exemplary character, leadership skills, scholarship, commitment to family, and community service. They are: Tasia Bailey, Dia’Mynnh Brown, Gabriella Grimaldi, Dehja Harris, Grace Jenkins, Lethuxolo Mlipha, Sam Anderson, Monique Chambers, Nicla De Biasi, Christopher Johnson, Samantha O’Sullivan, Kendall V. Parks, Dayonna Queen, Aaliyah Wilkinson, Donja Wilkin-son, and Edward “Ned” Yarsky.

The program drew to a close with an inspirational message to the students from Ben Sands, a 1975-1977 scholarship recipient and saxophonist known as “Southwest’s Favorite Son”; Robert St. Cyr’s good news about the successful collaboration between ESTF and Community Scholars on the tutoring program at Amidon-Bowen Elementary School; a message from Laura Howell, a sustaining monthly donor, encouraging viewers to consider giving on a monthly basis; and a moving performance by Edward “Ned” Yarsky who sang and played the guitar to “A Change is Gonna Come.”

SWNA Scholarship supporters participated in a live Zoom session moderated by Kenneth Ward after the awards program. Delmar Weathers, a member of ESTF, and Jan Adams, a Southwest resident and long-time major donor to the program, greeted scholarship recipients. Participants heard directly from scholarship recipients, past and present about their experiences, future plans, and the

value of the scholarship to them.

As participants learned more about the program, they offered their support, both financially and as volunteers and mentors. A specific suggestion was to engage Southwest residents as mentors to the scholarship recipients. College Bound offers mentoring to high school and college students, so there is potential for a partnership between the organizations. Another recommendation was to send care packages, which ESTF distributed to scholarship recipients on Friday, Aug. 14. There was also discussion about the importance of asking the scholars about their mental health and well-being. Many students talked about how the scholarship helps to relieve their stress and college debt. Supporters also heard from Peter Eicher; Westminster Presbyterian Church Co-Pastor Ruth Hamilton, whose son was a past scholarship recipient; Donna Purchase; Rhonda Hamilton, ANC Commissioner; Perry Klein, Chair, SWNA Technology Task Force; and Naomi Mitchell, liaison to Charles Allen.

In her closing remarks, Evans expressed her appreciation for the support the Education and Scholarship Task Force has received from the Southwest community over the past 46 years.

She gave thanks to Kenneth Ward for hosting the program and his counsel on how to put a virtual program together. She also gave special thanks to Vania Georgieva and Bruce Moody who spent countless hours planning, editing and producing the recorded portion of the Awards

Program, and to Perry Klein for assisting with the program and providing laptops for students.

Based on comments from viewers, ESTF’s first-ever virtual awards program was a huge success. They were amazed by the outstanding scholars, wise words from community leaders, and the number of new supporters and volunteers. In expressing her praise of the program, Southwest neighbor Debbie Jefferson wrote, “I thoroughly enjoyed this year’s virtual SWNA Scholarship program via Zoom. The SWNA ESTF put on a stellar presentation that highlighted each award recipient, allowing them to briefly share their aspirations and heartfelt appreciation to SWNA and scholarship supporters. This diverse group of multi-talented youngsters well represents Southwest’s rich and vibrant legacy of movers and shakers. One could only be proud of our youth and wish each and every one of them the very best in their future endeavors.”

You may view the Awards Program at our website swnascholarship.org.

For more information on College Bound, go to CollegeBound.org. If you are interested in making a tax-deductible donation to this worthy cause, please donate online following the donate link on our website or make your check payable to SWNA and mail it to: SWNA Scholarship Fund, PO Box 70131, Washington, DC 20024-0131.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

If you have events that you would like to add to the October Community Calendar, please email them to calendar@thesouthwester.com.

Many organizations have moved to online meetings and classes. Check these websites for up-to-date calendar notices:

- Christ United Methodist Church Calendar (<https://www.umc.org/en/umc-calendar>)
- Riverside Baptist Church Calendar (<https://riversidedc.org/calendar/>)
- St. Augustine's Episcopal Church Events (<https://www.staugustinesdc.org/events1>)
- Westminster Presbyterian Church Events (<https://www.westminsterdc.org/church-calendar.html>)
- SWBID COMMUNITY (<https://www.swbid.org/sunday-suppers>)
- Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Meetings (SWNA) (<https://swna.org/events/>)

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- Sept 3: **Arena Stage Molly's Salon** - <https://www.arenastage.org/tickets/virtual-events/>
- Sept 10: **Arena Stage Molly's Salon** - <https://www.arenastage.org/tickets/virtual-events/>
- Sept 12: **SWNA Youth Activities Task Force Car Wash Fundraiser** 10am-3pm in the parking lot of Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye Street, SW. Located in the back of the church (entrance off McKemie Place, SW). Donations of \$15 or more per vehicle to fund youth arts and a photography class. Email or call Thelma Jones at Thelma.d.jones@outlook.com or 202-251-1639 for more information.
- Sept 14: **SWNA Meet The At Large City Council Candidates** 7-9pm - <https://swna.org/events/>
- Sept 15: **SWNA Meet The At Large City Council Candidates** 7-9pm - <https://swna.org/events/>
- Sept 16: **SWNA Meet The At Large City Council Candidates** 7-9pm - <https://swna.org/events/>

- dates 7-9pm - <https://swna.org/events/>
- Sept 16: **SW AARP Virtual Meeting** 12pm- Dial-in Number: 425-436-6376. Access Code: 701215
- Sept 16: **Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund Anniversary**
- Sept 24: **SWNA Weather the Storm Virtual Festival** 12-4pm - <https://swna.org/events/>
- Sept 25: **SWNA Weather the Storm Virtual Festival** 9am-1pm - <https://swna.org/events/>.

WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

- SW Community Gardens Communal Work Hours:**
 Wednesdays, 6-7pm
 Saturdays, 12-2pm
 **Must RSVP in advance. Only four people are allowed per hour. To RSVP, email swgardensdc@gmail.com
- Waterfront Village**
 Every Friday, Waterfront Village Happy Hour, 5-6pm

- Every Tuesday, Waterfront Village Ted Talks, 11am-Noon
 Every Monday, Waterfront Village Meditation for the Masses, 11am-noon
 Please register at <https://www.dcwaterfrontvillage.org>
- Kadampa Meditation Center, Online Classes**
 Every Wednesday, 12:30pm, 30 minute Teaching & Meditation
 Every Wednesday, 6:30pm, 45 minute Teaching & Meditation
 Every Thursday, 7:15pm, 75 minute Teaching & Meditation
 Every Sunday, 10:00am, 60 minute Teaching & Meditation
 Please register at meditation-dc.org
- Farmers Market SW**
 Saturdays, 9am-1pm
 Local produce, herbs, pasture meats, eggs, cheese, fresh flowers & plants, local coffee, hot prepared food and more. Market accepts SNAP/Food Stamps and WIC/Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program and offers the Produce Plus Program.

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.

OP-ED

Continued from p. 7

teen management, among others. From the onset of my arrival in DC, I immediately became involved with the Washington, DC Metro Chapter of the Durham College Alumni Association and I continue to serve in leadership roles of increasing responsibilities with the Durham College Alumni Association. More importantly, I organized the first Durham College Alumni Reunion in Washington, DC in June 1988 and more than 200 alumni, faculty members, children of alumni and friends of the college came from throughout the United States. Since then we have held 15 college alumni reunions in New Jersey, Norfolk, VA, Wilmington, NC, aboard a Carnival Cruise to the Islands, several in Durham, and the Washington, DC area. Today, our reunions welcome alums from Alaska, Oklahoma, Upstate New York, Afghanistan, and throughout the eastern seaboard. I would later enjoy a leadership role in every college reunion with the association regularly recognizing my commitment and dedication to Durham College and the preservation of its legacy which is being archived through memorabilia, artifacts, and oral interviews. The Durham College collection will be housed for the world to see at the North Carolina Collection at Durham's main library in the heart of downtown.

Despite the college's success of graduating more than 5000 students who are now represented in virtually every walk of life, very few people had ever heard of Durham College, which closed in 1980. My dream became to one day put Durham College on the map. After all, the college was founded by Dr. Lucinda McCauley Harris, an African American woman in 1947. Starting on a shoe-string budget and an amazing vision with five students in a five-bedroom house with five used typewriters on Pine Street (now South Roxboro Street) in Dur-

ham, Dr. Harris possessed an indefatigable belief that there was a considerable need for a school designed to prepare youth for successful business careers. In filling that gap and being unapologetic in her conviction during an era when African Americans were struggling with their dignity and civil rights and women, especially African American women, were voiceless, Dr. Harris defied the odds and pushed forward, overcoming many hurdles and obstacles, and making her challenging efforts more worthwhile. As the school grew in recognition and vigor, Dr. Harris acquired more space to accommodate the student enrollment growth. One such building included the Muhammad Ali Physical Education Building on Fayetteville Street which welcomed the legendary world heavyweight champion to the "Bull City" and to the campus to attend the dedication of the building. As you may know, the building at Durham was the first building in the United States to be named in his honor. This and other achievements such as admission of veterans, international recruitment and the inclusion of more degree programs prompted Durham College to be regarded as one of the premier junior colleges on the East Coast. As a result, when many students graduated from Durham College, they were offered and guaranteed secure jobs with benefits, as recruitment was held annually by various divisions of the Federal Government in Washington, DC, banks, and other large business employers.

The dream to put Durham College on the map became a pressing thought that ultimately became a reality. In November 2018, I met John Schelp, a native Washingtonian, at an official dinner in Anacostia during the Georgetown University Breast Cancer Conference on Environment. Schelp has lived in Durham and worked at the National Institutes of Health for more than 30 years. Sadly, he had never heard of the college as well which reminded me again, that I had a personal commitment

to change the paradigm thinking about the school and to make sure that Dr. Lucinda McCauley Harris, Durham's native daughter, be recognized, lifted, and celebrated as part of the 150th Anniversary events of Durham which occurred in 2019. Schelp, a member of the Durham Sesquicentennial Honors Commission, and I worked closely together in recommending Dr. Harris for consideration to be honored during the 150th Anniversary. The fact that Dr. Harris, an educator, made the list to be recognized by the city's Sesquicentennial Honors Commission was amazing and indeed no small feat given the many Durhamites who were worthy of this honor. She was recognized with the likes of renown Historian John Hope Franklin and Civil Rights Activist and Episcopal Priest Rev. Pauli Murray. Durham College made the list of 150 names and Dr. Harris made the short list as one of the twenty-nine late Durhamites to be recognized, which was nothing short of righting a wrong and honoring a powerful woman and her legacy for changing and making the difference in the lives of over 5000 students, many of whom were making major contributions to the economy of Durham and the surrounding jurisdictions. For me and others, it was a long-held dream come true to see the recognition for the lives she generously touched through their affiliation with Durham College either as a student, faculty member, staff or part of the Durham College's broader community of supporters.

I continue to salute the dedicated and committed work of John Schelp and the Durham Sesquicentennial Honors Commission and the Durham City Council for recognizing the importance of awarding its unsung heroes and "sheroes" their proper respect, realizing that it's better late than never and realizing that what Durham finally did could be a model or blueprint for other cities to follow, especially in this era of racial equality. Dr. Harris had a tremendous impact on many from a local,

regional, and international perspective.
 The change in the educational environment during the 1970s prompted a decline in private schools and junior college enrollment. Yet after having many great achievements and defining the path of more than 5000 graduates, Durham College closed its doors in 1980. Although the school no longer exists, the fruits of Dr. Lucinda McCauley Harris' labor have been manifested in various ways through its prominent and outstanding graduates, like me, if I must say so myself, in virtually every walk of life. I feel so proud to be a Durham College alumna, as it contributed to a major part of my more than 33-year career journey at the World Bank Group in Washington, DC and the more than three decades of civic engagement and community building in various leadership capacities, including as the founder of the nationally recognized Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund in Washington, DC. This proudness is also reflected by being the founder/organizer of the first Durham College Reunion in 1988 and serving enthusiastically in an ongoing leadership capacity to help ensure the preservation and perpetuation of Dr. Harris' legacy as well as the 15 reunions we've enjoyed since 1988. At the 2019 Durham College Alumni Reunion held in Durham, I was honored with the inaugural Lucinda McCauley Harris Honors Medallion presented by former College Dean Constance Sartor Walker, J.D. I was also honored to be congratulated by Dr. James W. Hill, Former President of Durham College.
 Thanks to the Sesquicentennial Honors Commission and the Durham City Council for these honors to Durham College and Dr. Lucinda McCauley Harris. A memorial will be erected in Durham, NC for each of the 29 names included on the short list for future generations to know of and honor Dr. Lucinda McCauley Harris and my revered Durham College.

Washington Nationals Offer Grand Slam Prizes in Sweepstakes

BY NED YARSKY

For the remainder of the regular 2020 Major League Baseball season, with a \$100 donation, fans can purchase a message that will be featured on the Nationals HD scoreboard during an inning break. Each reservation includes a photograph of your message that can be shared as a keepsake. They request that you specify the date you want your message to be presented. For details and reservations visit nats4good.org/Scoreboard.

Nationals fans can also purchase a personalized baseball, which will be forever displayed on the Wall of Dreams near the Home Plate section of the stands. Order by Sept. 1 of this year to receive a replica ball from your order before the holidays. These personalized baseballs will be sold on a first come, first served basis until they are sold out. And for the first time, World-Series replica baseballs will also be sold this year. The prices vary from a \$250-



\$5,000 donation. For details visit nats4good.org/Wall.

But that's not all! By entering the Nationals sweepstakes, you can win a 2019 World Series Championship Ring crafted from 14-karat white and yellow gold, with 23.20 carats in gems. As is the tradition of championship teams, with a donation

of \$25, fans can enter for a chance to win a 2019 World Series Championship Ring—one lucky winner will receive an authentic World Series Washington Nationals Championship Ring, fitted and personalized. The sweepstakes are currently open and end on Oct. 3, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. EST. To enter visit natsringsweeps.com.

Any donation or purchase is a once in a lifetime opportunity that will be part of baseball history forever.

All proceeds will benefit the Washington National Philanthropies. These donations and purchases will all contribute to the memory and symbolism of the Nationals' historic championship run.

LABYRINTH

Continued from p. 1

spiritual tool for personal meditation and reflection. After half a year of being cooped up due to the pandemic, a little bit of contemplation and meditation is something we could all use.

Labrinths trace their roots back to Greek mythology, where its function was to hold the Minotaur, the monster eventu-

increasingly found for therapeutic use in hospitals and hospices.

Westminster's classic 7-circuit labyrinth, a ceramic path laid in the sanctuary floor in August 2001, leads you on about a 20-minute walk to the center and back—a powerful metaphor for our journey as humans.

There will be two time periods on Sept. 15, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 6:30-8:30 p.m. during which you can walk or sit and meditate. You may provide your own music with headphones or enjoy the meditative music available. Masks and social distancing will be observed. The event is free. Children must be accompanied by adults.

If you wish to remain socially distant or just learn more, on Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 7 p.m. you are invited to a Zoom Labyrinth Launch to learn more about labyrinths, hear insights and tips from those who have walked it, and be inspired for your own walk on the 15th. Contact Rev. Ruth Hamilton at rwh@westminster-dc.org for the zoom info.



Courtesy of Author

The labyrinth at Westminster Presbyterian Church

ally killed by the hero Theseus. Originally designed as elaborate, confusing structures, modern day labyrinths often have unicursal patterns used both in group ritual and for private meditation, and are



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Dear Friends,

Won't you help a neighbor? Many Southwest residents are struggling in these difficult times. Friends of Southwest DC is doing what it can, but we need your help. **Thanks to a \$5,000 matching grant, we can double your donation.**

Since the pandemic began, Friends of Southwest DC has been supporting a SW food pantry, a SW hot meals program, a job reentry program for SW residents, online tutoring for Amidon-Bowen students, scholarships to virtual Camp Area Stage for SW youth, a community garden, college scholarships for outstanding SW students, and other vital programs.

The need now is greater than ever. Please give back to your neighborhood. Send a check or donate by credit card at the addresses above. Your neighbors will thank you.

Sincerely,

Peter Eicher
President

Friends of Southwest DC is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit. All its work is done by volunteers so your donation will support projects.



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