serving the waterfront communities of southwest and navy yard

APRIL 2023 12,000 PAPERS PRINTED THIS MONTH

After 25 Years of Shaping Southwest Theater, Arena Stage **Artistic Director Molly**

Smith Set to Step Aside

BY SHEILA WICKOUSKI

ince 1998, Molly Smith has served as Arena Stage's Artistic Director, racking up credits for directing, new play development and work with great playwrights that are now part of theater history. The completion of Arena Stage's current season will mark her last in the role as she steps into retirement, marking the end of an era for Southwest's arts community.

Smith has connected DC's theater scene with the nation's brightest stages, bringing Broadway shows to Arena Stage and Arena Stage productions to Broadway. During her time with the company, Arena Stage has workshopped more than 100 productions, produced 39 world premieres and nurtured nine projects that went on to have a life on Broadway.

AT HOME IN SOUTHWEST

For those in Southwest DC, a point of special import in Smith's long career is her work leading to the re-invention of Arena Stage, including reshaping

See "Molly Smith," page 12





SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY **GARDENS SPRING** KICKOFF

Page 4



WATERSHED MONITORING REVEALS HEALTH OF RIVER

Page 4

WHERE ARE THEY **NOW? KENNETH** TINSLEY

Page 9

Lest We Forget: Celebrating 175 Years of the Pearl Escape of 1848

BY JACKIE L. WILLIAMS, PH.D.

he Pearl Initiative celebrates the 175th anniversary of the Pearl Escape on Saturday, April 15 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 16, 2023 from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. at Westminster Church and the Southwest Waterfront at the Wharf in Washington, DC. This commemorative event engages the community to celebrate the historic escape to freedom from slavery of 77 African American men, women, and children from the Washington, DC waterfront on a wooden schooner called the Pearl. Underground Railroad historians and scholars distinguish the Pearl escape as the single largest escape by water of enslaved people in U.S. history.

Hear the voices of the ancestors through their descendants as they tell their stories of hopes and fears. As descendant communities, Southwest DC residents and the broader community place themselves in this history and walk in the footsteps of those who were enslaved from Westminster Church to the Southwest Waterfront Wharf to Pearl Street where a historic marker is placed in the cobblestone. This "Remember the Pearl" pilgrimage is a walking path to experience the presence of ancestral spirits through singing spirituals and freedom songs, chanting "remembering the Pearl," and meditating.

Along this memorial walk, beginning at the corner of I Street and 4th Street SW to I Street and 7th Street SW, is the former site of the Notley Plantation of the late 1700's where two hundred enslaved families resided. At I and 7th, pause and look toward the north - toward the National Mall's former site of the slave pen at 7th Street and Independence Avenue SW At this site, a historic marker tells the story of Solomon Northrup, the author of Twelve Years a Slave. As the walk continues toward the river, pass by the historic Riverside Baptist Church at 7th Street and

Maine Avenue SW to Pearl Street on The Wharf. From Pearl Street, the walk ends at the river's Recreation Pier. At the pier, pause for calling of the names - "say their names" and pouring of libations.

"Won't you celebrate with the Westminster Church, Southwest community and beyond this historic moment and spiritual walk through one of Washington, DC's most iconic communities," said Reverand Brian Hamilton of Westminster. "This is one of the most important historical events to occur at the Southwest waterfront and by preserving this legacy we honor the struggle of enslaved people to find freedom then and now."

Featured speaker Dr. Richard Bell has discussed the Pearl escape in the context of the domestic slave trade and enslaved people's resistance. In his recent book Stolen, he tells the true story of five boys who were kidnapped in the North and smuggled into slavery in the Deep South, and

See "Escape," page 8

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Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund



Washington, DC 20024 Washington, DC 20024 thelma@tdjbreastcancerfund.org www.tdibreastcancerfund.org (202) 251-1639

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Southwester Staff

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Breast Cancer Support Group Marks Women's History Month, Plans for 13th Anniversary Celebration

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

¶ he Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund (TDJBCF) celebrated Women's History Month on Wednesday, March 15, via Zoom and the TDJBCF Facebook live with a host of outstanding speakers, including opening remarks by TDJBCF Board Member and Ambassador Scarlett S. Small followed by a blessing from TDJBCF Ambassador and Survivor Angela "Angie" O. Walker. Returning a fourth time by popular demand, Dr. Gigi El-Bayoumi, Founding Director of the Rodham Institute at the Georgetown School of Medicine discussed screening guidelines, dense breast, triple negative breast cancer, and more. Also, Michelle Ferretti, Research Manager at the Integrative Psychosocial Program at the Inova Life with Cancer and Deriece Harrington, Patient Advocate with the Inova Brain Fog Working Group presented on Brain Fog/ Chemobrain and invited the audience to consider participating in their study by visiting http://tinyurl.com/Inova-Brain-Fog-Study.

The meeting also included community updates from Pamela McKinney of Southwest Action, who provided an overview on her organization's efforts, including acknowledging the support of the TDJBCF, and the importance of creating a Community Land Trust in Southwest DC, and Lisa Baynes, Associate Director, Development, Northeast Region, American Cancer Society (ACS) who talked about ACS programs and the 2023 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk which will be Saturday, October 14, 2023, at the Tidal Basin. To register for the walk, please visit makingstrideswalk.org/washingtondc. The meeting was emceed by TDJBCF Founder Thelma D. Jones. To see the full details of the meeting, please visit https://fb.watch/jkxZEI-

Mark your calendar and join us Wednesday, April 19, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom and the TDJBCF Facebook Live as we celebrate the 13th Anniversary of the founding of the ten-time award winning TDJBCF Support Group. While 13 may be regarded as an unlucky number to some, the TDJBCF views it as a time of change with a positive outlook as we continue to host support group meetings with outstanding speakers who provides a wealth of information and inspires, uplifts, encourages, and gives voices to those who might be suffering in silence. Our guest speaker includes Tesha Coleman, Bureau Chief, Cancer and Chronic Disease Prevention Bureau, Community Health Administration, DC Department of Health. In addition, Carisa Etheridge, 5-Time Breast Cancer Champion will share her powerful story "Strength Beyond Cancer" as she boldly unpacks for the first time before an audience her feelings and emotions associated with each diagnosis. Etheridge, now 46, was first diagnosed at age 32 with Stage I ER+HER2- and was advised that she had a 2% chance of recurrence. She was diagnosed again with breast cancer in October 2012, thyroid cancer in June 2016, uterine cancer in Decem-

ber 2022, and Stage IV Metastatic ER+HER2- that same month. In addition, her precious daughter, a nursing student at Norfolk State University, was diagnosed with Stage IV Lymphoma during the pandemic. Because of Covid-19 restrictions, Etheridge was unable to be at her daughter's bedside. It's a harrowing vet powerful and heartwarming story that you don't want to

Also, Junius Nottingham, colon cancer survivor and advocate, will share his journey with Stage 1 colon cancer and his family's story as a carrier of Lynch Syndrome, a rare genetic type of hereditary cancer which claimed his son's life. The loss of Nottingham's son became his motivation and commitment to honoring his son by sharing his family's story with others. So, join us Wednesday, April 19, at 6:30 p.m. as Etheridge and Nottingham take a deep dive into what life is all about living with multiple forms of cancer while being a spouse, gainfully employed, and a loving and caring parent. Rev. Dr. Beryl C. Dennis, a breast cancer survivor, advocate, former caregiver and author with Wesley Theological Seminary will give a blessing. Lavern Chatman, the Vice President Business Development at EDJ Associates, Inc. and former long-time Southwest resident will serve as the emcee. Also, a resolution will be presented by the DC City Council in recognition of the support group's 13th Anniversary.. For more information, contact thelma@ tdjbreastcancerfund.org or visit www. tdjbreastcancerfund.org.

New DC Emergency Operations Center Opens in Navy Yard

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

new DC Emergency Operations Center was inaugurated in Navy Yard in early 2023, with more space for responding to large-scale emergencies and collaboration across federal and local agen-

The center's opening was attended by DC Mayor Muriel Bowser and officials from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the DC Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA).

"We know DC is unique - we operate as a city, county, and state, we're the nation's capital, we share a border with two states, and we host and support First Amendment activities every day," Bowser said in a press release. "We are proud of those responsibilities, and the new Emergency Operations Center provides more space for the in-person coordination that is required to protect DC."

The 42,000 square foot facility includes a Situation Room with 130 seats for handling emergency operations and an adjoining room with 40 seats for the Joint Information Center (JIC). The JIC allows agencies throughout the District to come together during an activation of an emergency or planned special event to coordinate and adjudicate situations as they happen.

The DC Emergency Operations Center will also include a new space for the Protect DC initiative, a prevention program that utilizes a multidisciplinary model of bringing together partners from behavioral health, human services, law enforcement, and other disciplines to assess an individual's risk of violence or serious harm, share information, and coordinate resources and services.

In 2022, HSEMA was awarded \$637,500 in grant funding from DHS to develop and enhance the District's threat assessment and management capabilities and to establish Protect DC. This funding is part of DHS' Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention Grant Program which provides communities with funding and support to create innovative solutions for preventing targeted violence and terrorism. In total, the District has received more than \$1 million from DHS through this program.



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Monitoring DC Watersheds: Buzzard Point and The Wharf Among Healthiest Sites on Anacostia River

BY MAYA STERETT, ALLIANCE FOR THE CHESAPEAKE BAY, DC PROJECTS ASSOCIATE AND PETRA BALDWIN, ANACOSTIA RIVER-KEEPER, PROJECT COORDINATOR

he summer of 2022 marked the fourth year of the DC Citizen Science Water Quality Monitoring program, funded by our partners at the Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) and led by Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Anacostia Riverkeeper, Rock Creek Conservancy, and Nature Forward. From May to September, during the peak recreation season, volunteers braved DC traffic each week to collect valuable water quality data about their watershed. Our volunteers helped us provide up-to-date, weekly water quality data to visitors and residents.

Across 24 sites along the Potomac River, Anacostia River,

and Rock Creek, volunteers dunked sample bottles into the rivers and creeks to collect bacteria and turbidity samples for lab analysis, read the air and water temperature with field thermometers, and dipped litmus paper into the water to record pH. Volunteers also recorded valuable recreational use data, noting when rowers, fishermen, or hikers went past the site. All sampling data was then processed at the Anacostia Riverkeeper lab and shared by project partners on Fridays, so the public could make informed decisions about how



Courtesy of Bob Fabia

Volunteer water quality monitors take measurements at a site.

and when they recreate on their local waterways. All data was published on social media, Water Reporter, and the Chesapeake Data Explorer.

2022 DC Water Quality Data Snapshot

Assessing overall trends in District water quality, the Anacostia River and Potomac River had multiple sites that met the water quality standards in DC for E. coli most of the summer. The District has water quality standards that are upheld to meet Clean Water Act requirements and to restore and protect the District waters. The most recent iteration of DC's water quality standards states that the healthy standards for these waters are: pH between 6.5-8, water temperature <32.3°C and turbidity <20NTU above ambient. For bacteria (E.coli), we most commonly use the geometric mean standard: at or below 126 MPN/100 mL, or Most Probable Number of microorganisms (in this case E.coli) per 100mL of sample water. The geometric mean gives a broader picture of water quality beyond a single sample by calculating the average of 5 samples over 30 days.

On the Anacostia River, Buzzard Point and the Wharf sites had the healthiest bacteria results, passing 93% of the time. On the Potomac River, best results come from the Tidal Basin (94%), Columbia Island (67%), and Thompson Boat House (53% passing rate). The highest passing rate for Rock Creek sites was Pinehurst Branch at 7% of the

On average, sites overwhelmingly passed DC recreational contact standards for turbidity (<20NTU), pH (between 6.5 and 8), and water temperature <32.5°C (<90.5°F) with fluctuations occurring most often after periods of high precipitation.

All three District waterways see weekday recreational use throughout the summer, and it's great to see residents and visitors enjoying the local waterways! A big part of the project's goal is to provide timely water quality data to potential recreators in

Potomac River, Anacostia River and Rock Creek. It is important to get a sense of how much recreation occurs on and around these waters. Our volunteers recorded many sightings of rowing, powerboating, kayaking, fishing, and walking, with the Potomac River seeing the majority of the observed recreation use. Considering last year's monitoring results, caution should be taken for high water contact sports during periods of potentially high-bacteria-count events like rain, and for sites that do not routinely pass the water quality standards.

The full 2022 report can be found on Anacostia Riverkeeper's website.

2023 Monitoring Season

Currently, we are gearing up for the 2023 monitoring season! If you live in the DC metro area and are interested in expanding your stewardship, we welcome you to come monitor with us! All equipment and training will be provided.

Our next trainings will be:

- April 1st In-Person Training at Thompson Boat Center at 1pm -
- April 5th Virtual Training at 10am
- April 12th Virtual Training at 10am - 12pm

For more information about the program and to register for a training session, please see Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's webpage or email monitor@anacostiariverkeeper.org for more information.

A version of this article was originally published on the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's website.

Southwest Gardens Spring Kickoff Scheduled for April 29

BY PAMELA MCKINNEY, SW GARDENS PRESIDENT

outhwest Gardens, located in Lansburgh Park, will re-open its communal section on Saturday, April 29 from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. with a day full of activities and fun. The kickoff will include planting, weeding, painting, composting, and lots of digging and watering. If these activities don't appeal to you, please know you're welcome to just come and enjoy time chatting with neighbors in your community garden. Our communal hours will return in May and be held every Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Sundays from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. (weather permitting).

Want to support the garden, but not sure how? Through our Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, young farmhands deliver weekly produce to a handful of public



Neighbors gather at the Southwest Garden in Lansburgh Park.

Courtesy of the Author

housing residents. We pay the youth to make these deliveries and rely on donations to make this possible. We also are looking for new CSA members this year.

Since 2021, we have provided cooking demos using garden produce for residents in Greenleaf Senior twice a year. We are looking for someone who may be interested in leading these cooking demos this year. They are usually held on Saturday mornings (two per year) at Greenleaf Senior.

Finally, the garden's 10th anniver sary is this year and we want to celebrate! If you are interested in helping us plan the celebration or supporting it, let us know. Email swgardensdc@gmail.com for more information about any of these initiatives, and as always, to learn more about the garden, visit www.swgardens.org or join our newsletter by emailing swgardensdc@gmail.com.



Painting Class for Older Adults

Waterfront Village is offering professional instruction to Southwest DC (20024) and Navy Yard residents aged 60 and older

Learn to use different brushes and stroke techniques

Create art for yourself and others

Have fun and collaborate with new friends





To apply for this special opportunity, please contact Waterfront Village by phone on 202-656-1834 or by email at: info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org

Classes held every Wednesday at 222 M Street SW from April 12 to May 31.

This program is supported by funding from the Southwest Community Foundation

National Museum of Asian Art to Host Centennial Celebration May 1-13

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

uring next month's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, the National Museum of Asian Art will host a two-week festival to mark its centennial anniversary. Events will include headline musical performances by Korean pop (K-Pop) star Eric Nam and internationally acclaimed singer-songwriter Raveena on May 13.

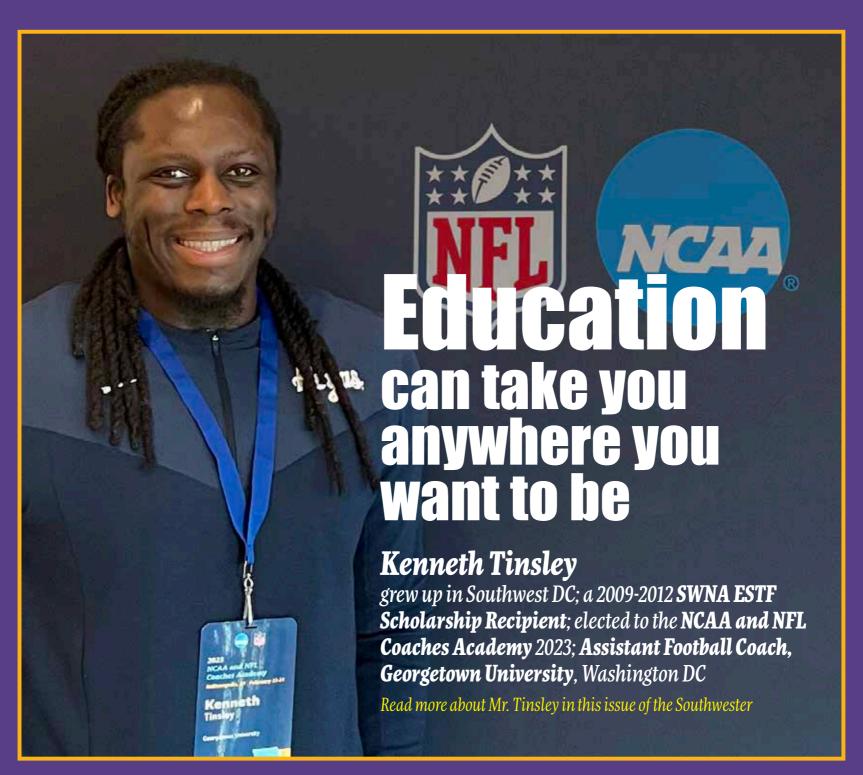
The performances will take place on the museum's stage in the Smithsonian's Arts and Industries Building and be broadcast to visitors on the National Mall and Freer Plaza. Performances will be free to the public, but tickets will be required to enter the Arts and Industries Building. Further details will be released on the museum's social media channels, @ NatAsianArt, in the coming months.

The National Museum of Asian Art marks its 100th anniversary in 2023, and it is commemorating its centennial with a yearlong series of events and programs that deepen understanding of Asian art and cultures. A cornerstone of these activities is its Asian Pacific American Heritage Festival, the National Museum of Asian Art's first large-scale festival in recognition of this heritage month.

From May 1–13, the museum and its surroundings will be transformed into a celebration of Asian arts and cultures. Programming highlights of the festival include its main-stage centennial celebration; the Washington premiere of acclaimed composer Huang Ruo's oratorio Angel Island, presented in partnership with Washington Performing Arts and the United States Air Force Band; a 1920s silent film with live accompaniment by Min Xiao-Fen; activations by Shared Studios; an Asian food and artisan market and more.

For more information, visit asia. si.edu/centennial.





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SWNA ESTF - Education and Scholarship Task Force was established to encourage and assist youth in the Southwest Washington DC, Ward 6, Zip code 20024 neighborhood to pursue a post-secondary education.



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Opinion from Southwest DC Action: Neighbors Step Up Struggle for Community Voice in Fourth and M Streets Development Plan

BY SUSAN AXLEROAD

outhwest residents, spearheaded by Southwest DC Action, are stepping up efforts to ensure there is a strong community influence in deciding the fate of the lots at 4th and M Streets SW, ahead of DC Mayor Muriel Bowser's April 3 visit to the Southwest Neighborhood Association's monthly meeting at Arena Stage. Concerned residents hope to build on the momentum they

achieved as a result of last year's highly successful petition drive, which saw more than 1,000 residents urge the city to purchase the lots and transfer the land to a community land trust.

Since then, community members have continued to press their case by writing to Bowser, Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen and other officials and to visit city officials in their offices and during neighborhood events. According to activists, the response of city officials thus far has been that the city lacks the funds and desire to make such a purchase.

Despite this, "we are not going away," said Pamela McKinney of Southwest DC Action, who describes the issue as a matter of equity. She notes for comparison big-ticket outlays the District has planned or funded elsewhere in the city, including \$50 million on parks in the NoMa neighborhood, \$14 million to enhance the landscape around Eastern Market Metro Station, \$13 million to redesign "Dave Thomas Circle" and a \$2 million bid for a dog park in Columbia Heights.

"We see these similar developments in other parts of the city. So why not preserve the heart of Southwest for the community, or at least ensure the voice of the community is heard in the planning process for these vital, irreplaceable spaces?" McKinney said.

Neighborhood concern continues to grow as information about a possible planned "to the curb" development of 4th and M Streets SW has circulated, which would include removal of the space for the farmers' market, as well as the existing trees, benches, and water fountains in front of Safeway.

The community has become quite vocal in what they want to see at this intersection, including retaining and enlarging the existing area in front of Safeway to accommodate informal meetings as well as child-friendly play areas; enhancing and expanding the space devoted to the Saturday farmers' market and Friday night markets; guaranteeing any new housing developments include large numbers of deeply affordable units (in light of the 20,000 people that remain on the waitlist for subsidized housing), and open green space to provide relief from the ranks of high-rise developments lining Maine Avenue from The Wharf to Navy Yard.

To ensure these and other ideas are taken seriously, Southwest DC Action and other concerned Southwest residents plan to take them directly to Mayor Bowser on April 3.

"Look for us wearing red and white," McKinney said, explaining that "red signifies passion and energy, both of which we see growing exponentially as Southwest residents learn about and seek to preserve the 'town center' of Southwest DC." To learn more, send an email to swdcaction@gmail.com.



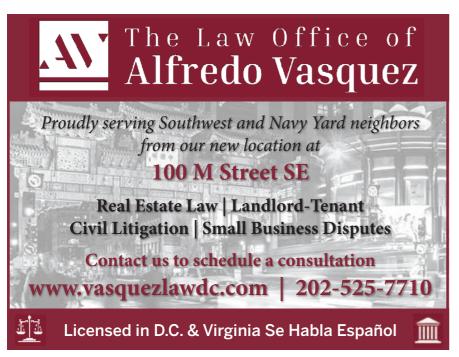
SWNA Community Meeting

Monday, April 3 • 7pm

Arena Stage at the Mead Center 1101 6th St, SW

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:Mayor Muriel Bowser





ESCAPE

Continued from p. 1

their daring attempt to escape and bring their captors to justice. Dr. Bell is Professor of History at the University of Maryland. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University and his B.A. from the University of Cambridge. His research interests focus on American history between 1750 and 1877. Bell is the recipient of more than a dozen teaching awards, including the University System of Maryland Board of Regents Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, the highest honor for teaching faculty in the Maryland state system. He has held major research fellowships at Yale, Cambridge, and the Library of Congress and is the recipient of the National Endowment of the Humanities Public Scholar award and the 2021 Andrew Carnegie Fellowship. He serves as a Trustee of the Maryland Center for History and Culture and as a fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

Also participating is Dr. Clarence Lusane, Professor of Political Science at Howard University and author of the recent book *Twenty Dollars* and Change: Harriet Tubman and the Ongoing Fight for Racial Justice and Democracy. Dr. Lusane lends his scholarly guidance to this citizen's group committed to the preservation of this important history and its meaning for us today in our local community context.

The Pearl Initiative is made up of Southwest DC community residents initially assembled by Vyllorya Evans and Reverend Ruth Hamilton of Westminster Church to renew interest in the story of the the Pearl and its powerful meaning for today. The group honors the long-standing work of The Pearl Coalition led by David Smith, grandson of founder Lloyd Smith. Community members of The Pearl Group include: Audrey Hinton, Vania Georgieva, Dr. Sheila S. Walker, Jean Shulman, Patricia Bishop, Jonathan Holley, Ed Henderson, Georgine Wallace, Kenneth Ward, Dr. Jackie L. Williams, Rev. Brian Hamilton and Christopher Williams (Chief Curator). More information and updates can be found at westminsterdc.org/ remember-the-pearl.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Scholarship Winners

BY VYLLORYA EVANS, CO-CHAIR, SOUTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSEM-BLY AND WILMA GOLDSTEIN, MEMBER **EDUCATION AND YOUTH TASK FORCE**

t the Modern on M Apartments in Southwest DC, we recently had the chance to catch up with Kenneth Tinsley, a previous winner of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA) Education and Youth Task Force scholarship, and ask the question on all of our minds - where is he now?

Tinsley's presence fills a room. He has the tall, athletic look of someone who has played football and since finishing his college studies has had a series of jobs coaching and conducting conditioning in that sport.

In his time away from DC while attending college, playing football, going to graduate school and coaching his sport of choice, he discovered he missed his DC family and friends. Last year Tinsley was hired as the assistant coach for running backs at Georgetown University. Although we don't know how long it will be until someone tries to entice him away, we do know he's happy to be here, his family is happy, and his friends are happy.

"Kenneth is an inspiration to his peers, and I am sure he doesn't realize his impact," said Peter Gibbs, retired director of the Office of Surety Guarantees at the U.S. Office of The Small Business Administration. "His ability to go after his dreams, despite all the obstacles he faces in a very competitive industry is an inspiration to me. I am so proud of his journey, but I value him as a person more than anything."

Reverend Mia McClain, Senior Pastor at the Riverside Baptist Church in Southwest DC, called Tinsley a great resource and a dedicated member of the community. "From helping to put up Christmas lights in our church (he is one of the few who are tall enough), to brainstorming ideas about the relaunch of some youth programming, Kenneth is a true asset to and advocate for Southwest DC. I look forward to the ways he will continue to grow and inspire the next generation," McClain said.

As the middle child of Diann Tinsley and the late Yurlee McNeil, Tinsley has an older sister, Khiana Johnson, who has two children of her own, and a younger brother also named Yurlee. Both generations were born, raised and educated in DC through high school. Tinsley went to Amidon (now known as Amidon-Bowen) for elementary school and spent his first year of middle school at Jefferson Middle School Academy and his final

two years at the now closed Sasha Bruce Public Charter School. He then went to Woodrow Wilson High School (now known as Jackson Reed High School) and graduated from Wilson in 2008.

He chose Central State University, located in Wilberforce, Ohio, for his undergraduate studies, in part because he tends to look at colleges and universities for the balance between education and sports. He received SWNA scholarships in the years 2008- 2011. At Central State, he majored in business administra-

See "Winners," page 13



Courtesy of Author

Kenneth Tinsley



Let's get together and discuss your Selling and Buying options in the neighborhood. Our real estate company has kept pace, adapting to the rapid growth and a changing economy while maintaining exact standards and integrity. This is why I am introducing the "CASH BACK PROGRAM".

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\$150,000 - \$199,999	\$975				
\$200,000 - \$249,999	\$1,250				
\$250,000 - \$299,999	\$1,500				
\$300,000 - \$349,999	\$1,825				
\$350,000 - \$399,999	\$2,100				
\$400,000 - \$499,999	\$2,525				
\$500,000 - \$649,999	\$3,225				
\$650,000 - \$799,999	\$4,100				
\$800,000 - \$999,999	\$5,000				
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\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	\$7,000				
\$2,000,000 - \$2,999,999	\$8,000				
\$3,000,000 - and above	\$9,000				

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to register for the program and put money in your pocket when you are buying or selling a property. I look forward to working with you during your real estate process.











The Southwester Page 10 April 2023



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?





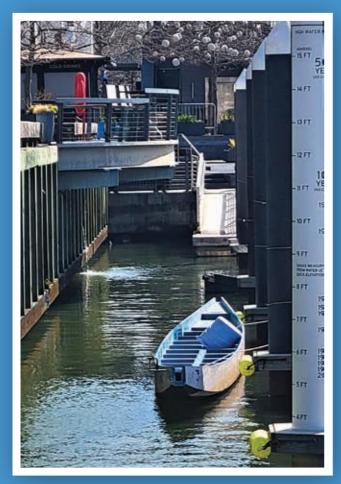
Answers from March 2023 issue

Differences: The words saying St. Patrick's Day are different; the leprechaun is in a different spot; the shamrock sign on the pot is different; the tree on the left of each picture is different; the picture on the right has a bunny and also a pink bird instead of one of the shamrocks.

1.	
2	

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e of the Month



Courtesy of Ricardo Jose Gonzalez-Rothi

The boat Maru at The Wharf marina.

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



Reading for a Five Star Review

BY KITTY FELDE

he warm-up assignment for my writing group was simple: write a book review for a novel that doesn't exist. We all immediately put pen to paper, creating really awful reviews for even more awful books.

We all rely on reviews. Not just book reviews to help us find our next great read, but also to choose the best new restaurant at The Wharf, or the best vacuum cleaner under \$200, or the best yoga class in DC.

Reviews can also be used to tempt kids to read.

Step one: ask a reluctant reader what they are passionate about. Movies in the Marvel universe? There are hundreds of movie reviews online. Legos? Product reviews can be found online wherever those little plastic pieces are sold. Is there a young athlete in your house? Have them read the reviews to find the healthiest sports drink.

Or task them with reading online

vehicle reviews to guide your purchase of a future new car. Or have them find reviews of various breakfast cereals to guide your next trip to the grocery store. You can have them dig through reviews to research the best rewards program for a new credit card.

There are Yelp reviews for bakeries, Tripadvisor reviews for travel destinations, movie reviews on Rotten Tomatoes...you get the idea.

Then take it one step further: challenge that child to identify which reviews are fake (bought and paid for) and which ones are legitimate. This way, you are not only encouraging careful reading, you're teaching media literacy as well.

Just don't call it reading. Call it research.

Kitty Felde is host and executive producer of the Book Club for Kids podcast, the free 20-minute show where kids talk about books.

Spring Food Drive Set to Stock the Shelves

BY REGINA MAZUR

or more than three years, the mission of Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid (SYC/ W6MA) has remained same: providing Black and Brown youth and families with resources that others in DC may already have. Due to the tireless efforts of Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid, commu-

nity residents can receive the assistance and resources they need.

With spring around the corner, SYC/W6MA market table will resume its operations beginning Saturday, April 1 at the Southwest Farmers Market.

SYC/W6MA will also be holding a **Southwest DC Spring Food Drive.**

Southwest DC Spring Food Drive Information:

Through a partnership between Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid and Christ United Methodist Church, the Southwest DC Spring Food Drive will run through the month of April and will be used to stock up our food pantries for the coming spring and summer months. With the increase in food costs and the reduction of

SNAP benefits, many families in our community are in need of food and supplies. The requests for assistance have increased, and our shelves are getting bare. Support us in seeing that everyone in our community has access to basic food.

Donations can be brought to any of the

following locations:

MUTUAL AID

Christ United Methodist Church (900 4th Street SW, back entrance of the pathway to the Southwest Public Library), on Wednesdays from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Southwest Farmers Market (425 M St SW) at the Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid booth, on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Check your building or church to see if they are hosting a donation box.

We are seeking donations of:

 Non-perishable foods, such as canned tuna, canned chicken, pasta, pasta sauce, soup, boxed milk, peanut butter, jelly, cooking oil, condiments, cereal, and Ensure.

- Toiletries, such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, bar soap, deodorant, and feminine products, and Depends.
- Monetary Donations: donate online at bit.ly/swdc-springfooddrive

To provide the best opportunities for children and youth SYC/W6MA is looking for your help:

HELP SEND DC KIDS TO SUM-MER CAMP: Join Serve Your City/ Ward 6 Mutual Aid (SYC/W6MA) in providing Black & Brown DC youth with the chance to explore, enjoy and play this summer! Your "solidarity, NOT charity" will give EVERY SYC/W6MA scholar across DC equitable summertime experiences that will last a lifetime. For more information, visit bit.ly/sycsummer.

HELP VIRTUALLY TUTOR DC K-12 STUDENTS: Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid's Free School for Unlimited Youth program provides life-changing educational experiences and opportunities for Black and Brown youth in Washington, DC, including free virtual tutoring for K-12 students throughout the city. We are always looking for addi-

tional, dedicated tutors to help support even more DC K-12 students. If you're a college student, graduate student, or professional interested in volunteering for virtual tutoring sessions in any subject, please visit bit. ly/sycvolunteertutor to learn more and join our network. Have any questions? Please feel free to email Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid's *Free School for Unlimited Youth* program at youthenrichment@serveyourcitydc.org.

Food Distribution: This will take place at the Christ United Methodist Church's 5000 Ministry Food Pantry on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 2:30 p.m. Location: 900 4th Street SW.

SYC/W6MA SW Pod Donation Hours: Wednesdays from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

If you need additional support with food and supplies, please call the Mutual Aid Hotline at 202-683-9962 or email ward6mutualaid@gmail.com

Want to Learn More or Get Involved? We need more people to help with the food distribution on Saturdays please contact us for more information at swmutualaid@serveyourcity.org



MOLLY SMITH

Continued from p. 1

its architecture and repositioning it as a national center for American artists.

As the Southwest waterfront has transformed, Arena Stage has changed along with the neighborhood. The first permanent home for Arena Stage was an 827 seat theater on 6th Street and Maine Avenue SW founded by Zelda Fichandler in October 1961. The Kreeger Theatre opened in 1971 and The Old Vat Room in 1976.



ABOVE: Bing Thom, Jaylee Mead, Molly Smith, and Stephen Richard break ground for the Mead Center for American Theater. Courtesy of Scott Suchman.

LEFT: In January 2008, Arena Stage broke ground on a dramatic architectural update to its 48-year-old campus, and opened its new home in October 2010.

(It would make history with its 10 years and 2300 performances by Stephen Wade and *Banjo Dancing*.) Southwesters might also remember that actors on the stage during those years, Richard Bauer and Halo Wines, were also our friends and neighbors

In a recent interview with *The Southwester*,

Smith explained the strong connections between the community and the theater. Throughout Washington DC, where local theaters have started, like Studio Theater and others on the 14th Street NW corridor and the Shakespeare Theater on 7th Street NW, commercial entities and major developments have followed.

"When I came on, there was a momentous decision about moving downtown versus staying in Southwest DC, and ultimately the Board decided to stay in Southwest and rebuild," Smith said. "After that, we knew we wanted to preserve the two historic buildings and demolish everything else. And that the center needed to be bold and dynamic. Mission accomplished!"

Smith's early years at Arena Stage were spent preparing to build the new center. She described the tremendous amount of time spent looking at architecture firms, talking with architects, working on the design, and planning programming for the new theater over a period of a dozen years. Construction commenced in January 2008 and lasted two and half years, a period when Arena worked offsite, splitting time between Crystal City and downtown DC.

"It was thrilling when we came back together in 2010, all under one soaring roof," Smith said.

AN AMERICAN MISSION

Prior to Smith's arrival, Arena Stage spent the majority of its first 47 years presenting audiences with classic shows with a few new projects sprinkled in. Smith turned that approach on its head.

"One of the most important parts of my past creative life was working on new plays. When I arrived, there was a major shift into American work of past, present, and future and Arena now produces one-third to one-half

See "Molly Smith," page 13

Arena Stage Announces New Season Lineup

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

Arena Stage announced the company's 74th season, which will include two original musicals, an acclaimed play with music, a comedy, a new addition to the Power Play series and the return of Step Afrikal. More information is available at arenastage. org/23-24.

2023/24 SEASON

Cambodian Rock Band

July 18 - August 27, 2023

It's 2008 and a father-daughter duo are heading to Phnom Penh; she to prosecute a notorious Cambodian war criminal, he 30 years after escaping then-Communist rule. In a psychedelic theatrical extravaganza set to some of the country's most popular rock music, including from Dengue Fever, Cambodian Rock Band shines a light on the country's vibrant '70s rock scene and how an entire generation of musicians was purged by the Khmer Rouge, as it brings long-buried family secrets back to life.

POTUS: Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass Are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive

October 13 – November 12, 2023

When the Commander-in-Chief publicly calls his wife a "See You Next Tuesday," all H-E-Double Hockey Sticks breaks loose. In this searingly funny Broadway hit, POTUS follows how seven women of dramatically different backgrounds minimize the damage done by male arrogance and political posturing, in an endearing homage to the women who keep things running behind the scenes.

Swept Away

November 25 – December 30, 2023

When a violent storm sinks their whaling ship off the coast of New Bedford, Mass., the four survivors face a reckoning: how far will they go to stay alive? And can they live with the consequences? With music and lyrics from The Avett Brothers ("America's Biggest Roots Band," Rolling Stone), whose 2004 "Mignonette" was inspired by an 1884 shipwreck and the struggle of four men to survive, Swept Away is an electrifying, soul-stirring exploration of how facing tragedy can open the door to forgiveness... if only we'll let it.

Tempestuous Elements

February 16 – March 17, 2024

Born into slavery in North Carolina, Anna Julia Cooper was a visionary Black feminist and educator in the late 19th/early 20th centuries, and only the fourth African American woman to earn a doctoral degree. Tempestuous Elements—the 11th in Arena Stage's Power Play cycle—shines a light on Cooper's tumultuous tenure as Principal of Washington, D.C.'s historic M Street School where she fought to keep Black education alive, despite the racism, gossip and sexism that threatened to consign her efforts to obscurity.

Unknown Soldier

March 29 – May 5, 2024

Cleaning out her grandmother's home, Ellen Rabinowitz discovers the photograph of an anonymous soldier tucked away in a box of keepsakes. And so begins Unknown Soldier, a sweeping, elegiac musical from Daniel Goldstein and the late Michael Friedman on a woman's journey to unearth the secrets of her family's past... and which will chart her future.

The Migration: Reflections on Jacob Lawrence

June 6 - July 14, 2024

Using its hallmark style of percussive dance-theater, Step Afrika!'s The Migration: Reflections on Jacob Lawrence tells the story of one of the largest movements of people in United States history, when millions of African American migrants moved from the rural South to the industrial North in the 1900s to escape Jim Crow, racial oppression, and lynchings. Inspired by Jacob Lawrence's iconic 60-panel "The Migration Series" (1940-41), this signature work from the award-winning dance company uses the images, color palette, and motifs in the painting series to tell this astonishing story through pulsating rhythms and visually stunning movement.

Step Afrika!'s Magical Musical Holiday Step Show

December 8 – 17, 2023

Tickets will be available in June 2023.

*Plays, artists, and dates subject to change.

MOLLY SMITH

Continued from p. 12

of our work as new," Smith said.

While Smith equates trying to pick a favorite show or initiative with trying to pick a favorite child, insisting she loves them all the same, she has brought to life a range of productions focused on social justice and contemporary political issues.

In 2016, Arena Stage was one of the originating theaters of the Women's Voice Theater Festival, a two-month effort of 50 theater companies to produce works by female playwrights.

"We didn't know how important the festival was until two to three years later," Smith said. "By the third year, there were 150 productions around the country that came from premiering these plays. All of us in the city were really proud of that."

Most recently, in Smith's final directorial venture, *My Body No Choice*, eight of America's most exciting female playwrights shared what choice means to them. Politics is not a new setting for Smith, who built an initiative called Power Plays, encompassing a series of stories exploring politics and power.

The new paths Smith has paved are built on a solid foundation she found when she first came to Arena Stage to direct *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

"When I was in need of something or had a problem, the head of that department would come talk to me and within an hour or two, it was resolved," Smith said. "This is one of the greatest theaters in the country and we have many people who have worked here for ten to twenty and more years. We are able to do so much because we have had an incredible staff that makes it happen. That's how you do it. You could be sitting around having the most amazing ideas in the world, but if you don't have a team of artists and administrators to push the rock up the hill with you, it won't happen."

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In the 2010's, Arena Stage inaugurated new community engagement



Photo by Nic Lehoux courtesy of Bing Thom Architects

Molly Smith is completing her 25th and final season as Arena Stage's Artistic Director.

programs and a project called The Writer's Council, even as they worked to raise funds and complete the theater's renovation. It was also a recordbreaking decade for productions and ticket sales.

Community engagement has grown and changed with the times, expanding to include programs like Camp Arena Stage and the Voices of Now festival.

"Young artists are the future, and they have a lot to say," Smith said. "With Voices of Now, young artists are able to create stories about their own lives and their lives in the world today. What they are facing is daunting, in their own lives and also in the world, and I am consistently heartened by the joy, pain, and fury they use to energize the stories that they tell. We believe that imagination is our greatest creative asset as human beings. If we are able to ignite the imagination of young people, it ends up being essential for their future."

In 2021, during the height of a global pandemic, Arena Stage opened its doors to host a city-run vaccination site, where Smith said 10,000 people were vaccinated against COVID-19. The facility has also hosted a dozen job fairs, welcoming approximately 15,000 job seekers from across the District.

"The not-for-profit movement was started over 75 years ago to create theaters that are integrated in the community, as opposed to going to New York or seeing touring shows," Smith said. "Having programs that are of and about the community is important because those programs knit us into the community."

A NEW CHAPTER

While a farewell dinner honoring Smith and the announcement of the next Artistic Director are on the horizon, Smith is only looking forward as she prepares for the next phase for Arena Stage and for herself. "Exciting times ahead for Arena," she said. "A new artistic director will bring in fresh ideas and new artists from around the country. There is no question this will energize staff, board and the community."

As for what's next for her personally? "What's next for me is whatever I want to do," Smith said. "That's what you get to do when you turn the page. Part of me wants to wait for the ground to go fallow to see what shoots of green grow up. We will also travel because I have missed it. About a year ago I went back to a pottery studio, and now I am throwing pots. I love learning a new craft and working as a solo craftsperson since I'm usually working with groups in the theater."

For 25 years, Molly Smith has nurtured the powerful and magical gift of live theater in our shared community of Southwest DC. To read more about her legacy, visit arenastage.org/mollysmith25.

WINNERS

Continued from p. 9

tion management and played tight end for three seasons on the school's football team. In years when Tinsley didn't play football at Central State, he coached the women's basketball team and served as athletic mascot.

His brother Yurlee, who is an IT Specialist, also earned SWNA scholarships as a student at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, South Carolina. Both Central Union and South Carolina State are part of the proud American tradition of excellent Historically Black Colleges and Uni-

versities (HBCU).

After college graduation, Tinsley returned to DC where he started his career as a coach when he was hired at Eastern Senior High School in Northeast DC as the assistant offensive coordinator as well as assistant head strength and conditioning coach. He has since had a series of jobs at the collegiate level where he has coached football, served as a conditioning coach, helped with player development and recruitment and mentored several individual players who went on to receive playing honors.

His first job after being at DC's Eastern High School, was in the 2014-15 season at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. Then he went to Union College in Schenectady, New York where he spent several seasons and played a key role in planning the team's offense and assisting in wide receiver development, leading the team to one undefeated season and one 11-1 season.

While at Union, he mentored wide receiver Andre Ross, Jr. to his Rookie of the Year honor and took the team to two All-Liberty League First Team Selections. This assignment led to several assistant coaching jobs at Morrisville State College in Morrisville, New York, and American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts, where Tinsely also earned

his MBA degree.

We spent the last part of our interview talking about his future. Tinsley said he enjoys coaching, although he said he finds it to be more like teaching. We think his future can be whatever he wants it to be.

We asked his mother, Diann, for a quote and will give her the last word. "When you were 12 years old I told you, 'You're the man.' Twenty years later I'm proud to say, 'You are still the man.' Your kind heart and determined action has made you the man you are today. Remember to always love God and be you."

Southwester Community Calendar | April 2023

Due to COVID-19, there may be last-minute changes to these events. Be sure to check the web references or telephone numbers in the listings.

SAT 1, 2-9 P.M. Bloomaroo at the Wharf. Celebrate Spring at the Home of the Cherry Blossoms®. Visit The Wharf on April 1, 2023 for Bloomaroo®, a free spring extravaganza featuring a full day of cherry-blossomed themed art, music, fireworks, and family-friendly fun along the waterfront! District Pier.

SUN 2, 11 A.M. Palm Sunday Celebration. Guest Presenters, Liturgical Dance and Congregational singing. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

SUN 2, 1 P.M. SW Action Meeting. For people interested in advocating for affordable housing in Southwest, we meet every 1st Sunday of the month at the Southwest Library in Meeting Room 1.

MON 3, 7 P.M. SWNA Community Meeting with Mayor Muriel Bowser. The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly will host Mayor Muriel Bowser at the April 3rd community meeting. Michael Goodman, Editor of the Southwester, will serve as discussion moderator. Arena Stage.

TUES 4, 4 P.M. Teen Bingo. Teens are invited to play as many rounds of BINGO we can fit into the hour! Prizes available for winning players. Ages 13-19. Join us in Meeting Room 1 (downstairs) anytime between 4:00 and 5:00 P.M. Southwest Library.

TUES 4, 11, 18, 25, 6 P.M. Climate Awareness Film Series and Discussion. Join the Southwest Library and SW Strong for their climate awareness film series: There is no Planet B. Each Tuesday in April at 6 P.M., the library will show a documentary and host a discussion with a guest speaker on climate change and disaster preparedness.

WED 5, 7 P.M. Wayback Wednesday Cinema: Guess Who's Coming to Dinner. Movie lovers of all ages! Join us at Southwest Neighborhood Library in Meeting Room 1 for screening of the classic Guess Who's Coming to Dinner (1967) starring Spencer Tracy, Sidney Poitier, and Katharine Hepburn, directed by Stanley Kramer. This film is not rated and has a runtime of 1h 48m.

THURS 6, 7 P.M. Candlelight Labyrinth Walk. Join us for a meditative walk on Westminster's beautiful labyrinth set with tea candles and Gregorian chants. Free to the public. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

THURS 6, 6:30-7:30 P.M. Community Seder Meal. Join us for a traditional Seder meal and program led by Carol and Joel Itskowitz. Must RVSP: 202-484-7700/wpcdcoffice@gmail.com. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

SAT 8, 7 P.M. Faith & Film Zoom Presentation of "Everything Everywhere All At Once". Rating: R; Release: 2022; Genre: Sci-Fi; Duration: 2h 21min. Winner of 7 Academy Awards including Best Picture (2023) When an interdimensional rupture unravels reality, an unlikely hero must channel her newfound powers to fight bizarre and bewildering dangers from the multiverse as the fate of the world hangs in the balance. All Invited! Contact the Westminster church office for Zoom link (202-484-7700/ wpcdcoffice@gmail.com)

SUN 9, 10 A.M. Easter Brunch. Break bread with us on Resurrection Sunday. Join us for light fare and fellowship. All invited. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

SUN 9, 11 A.M. Easter Sunday Service. Westminster welcomes back Bobby Felder and friends to lead music worship. Special Easter message preached by Rev. Brian Hamilton. All Invited. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

SUN 9, 12 P.M. Easter Egg Hunt for Kids. Outdoor Easter Egg Hunt for children 2-13 years of age. Join

in the fun! All invited! Westminster Presbyterian Church.

MON 10, 4 P.M. Teen Space: Teen Crafternoon. Teens, stretch your creative muscles with a surprise craft activity from 4-5pm in the Teen Space at Southwest Neighborhood Library. Materials provided while supplies last. All skill levels welcome. Free! Ages 13-19.

WED 12, 5:30 P.M. RiverRun Festival: Rolling on the River Presented by The Kennedy Center. Join The Wharf in welcoming Rolling on the River, a free outdoor concert held in conjunction with the RiverRun Festival presented by The Kennedy Center. Spanning World Water Day (March 22) to Earth Day (April 22), hundreds of extraordinary talents from around the world—musicians, actors, dancers, authors, filmmakers, chefs, and visual artists—will converge in Washington, D.C., for RiverRun. The Rolling on the River concert on the Transit Pier Floating Stage at The Wharf will celebrate life on the Potomac with a pop music concert full of storytelling and your favorite river songs. All are welcome, seating is on a first come, first served basis. Transit Pier.

WED 12, 7 P.M. Wayback Wednesday Cinema: I, Robot. Movie lovers of all ages! Join us at Southwest Neighborhood Library in Meeting Room 1 for screening of the action sci-fi I, Robot (2004) starring Will Smith, Bridget Moynahan, Alan Tudyk, and Bruce Greenwood, directed by Alex Proyas. This film rated PG-13 and has a runtime of 1h 55m.

THURS 13, 6 P.M. YA Book Club for Adults. If Young Adult Literature is your preferred genre, drop in for an energetic conversation on award-winning titles written for teens. Meet other adults who enjoy the genre too. Visit the library to get your copy of the month's book. Southwest Library.

MON 17 - SUN 23, Spring Break at Southwest Library. Looking for a way to bust the boredom bubble or get creative outside of the classroom? Head on over to the Southwest Library each day during DCPS's Spring Break to enjoy a different activity. These activities are best geared for school aged children, aged 5-12, and their families. All supplies will be provided. All Week Long: Pick up a Boredom Buster Take and Make Kit to get you through the week!

MON 17, 12-5 P.M. Family Game Day. The whole family is invited in to play some games, including Uno, Chutes and Ladders, Jumbo Connect 4, and more. Southwest Library.

MON 17, 12-5 P.M. Luminaries Craft. Join us for a craft that will light up your creativity. While supplies last. Southwest Library.

MON 17, 7 P.M. ANC6D Business Meeting. Held virtually on Zoom. Agenda and link to meeting are at www.anc6d.org/virtualmeeting.

TUES 18, 4 P.M. Teen True Crime Book Club. Teen sleuths, join us to discuss Dashka Slater's The 57 Bus about an apparent hate crime and the aftermath of a shocking eight-minute incident. Grab a copy of the book at Southwest Library or place a hold on a print or digital atdclibrary.org. The Teen True Crime Book Club will meet in Conference Room 1 at the library.

TUES 18, 7 P.M. Toni Morrison Fiction Book Club. We will read and discuss one of Nobel Laureate and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Toni Morrison's 11 fiction novels on the 3rdTuesday of every month. So whether you are a well-read fan of Morrison or have never read her work, all are welcome! The April book is Tar Baby. Southwest Library.

WED 19, 12 P.M. Coding with Bee Bots. Put your STEM Hat on to meet our robotic bumble bees and

learn to code! Southwest Library.

WED 19, 12 P.M. Monthly AARP Luncheon Chapter Meeting and Speaker Series. In April, the Southwest AARP Chapter will host the Department of Aging and Community Living, (DACL) & Partners For An Interactive Workshop on New, Updated and Continuing Resources & Services. The Workshop and Speaker Series is open to the entire Washington, D.C. Senior community, their families, friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome to join us in our interactive discussions with our speakers. Lunch Available: COST: \$5.00 All meeting Attendees are required to wear masks during the meeting, except when eating lunch. All meeting Attendees must show either paper or electronic proof of COVID-19 vaccination and a photo ID. For further information contact - Betty Jean Tolbert Jones, bettyjeantolbertjones@yahoo.com or 202-554-090. River Park - South Common Room.

WED 19, 7 P.M. Wayback Wednesday Cinema: Shrek. Movie lovers of all ages! Join us at Southwest Neighborhood Library in Meeting Room 1 for a screening of the fairy tale comedy Shrek (2001) starring Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz, and Eddie Murphy, directed by Andrew Adamson and Vicky Jenson. This film is rated PG and has a runtime of 1h 30m.

THURS 20, 1-5 P.M. Craft Time! Let's make beaded bracelets together. Southwest Library.

FRI 21, 12-5 P.M. Ahoy Mateys! It's time to DIY our own treasure maps. Southwest Library.

SAT 22, 11 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. / 2-5 P.M. Black Panther Double Feature. Travel to Wakanda with us for this all day movie extravaganza. Southwest Library.

WED 26, 7 P.M. Wayback Wednesday Cinema: Ferris Bueller's Day Off. Movie lovers of all ages! Join us at Southwest Neighborhood Library in Meeting Room 1 for a screening of the fairy tale comedy Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986) starring Matthew Broderick, Alan Ruck, and Mia Sara, directed by John Hughes. This film is rated PG-13 and has a runtime of 1h 38m.

THURS 27, 7 P.M. Open Mic Poetry Night. In celebration of Poetry month, we invite you to participate in our Open Mic Night. This is a family friendly event for library customers of all ages. Share poetry and more. Located in the Large Lower-Level Meeting Room, Southwest Library.

SAT 29, 2 P.M. Best of Southwest Author Talk. Come meet local authors Margaret George and Lydia Adcock and hear them read their book The Quest of the Platypus. Free copies will be available to the first ten households in attendance. Kids can be authors too–you're invited to learn about the joys of intergenerational writing and bringing our characters to life. We'll have a chance to ask Margaret and Lydia questions and make our own platypus crafts. This event is geared towards children 12 and under and their caregivers. Southwest Library.

WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

AARP TAX ASSISTANCE, Mondays and Wednesdays 1-5 P.M. by appointment only. Need help with your taxes? The AARP Foundation is ready to help! Meet with a trained volunteer with the AARP Foundation to help prepare your income tax return. Assistance is by appointment only - to make an appointment, send an email to 20051018@aarpfoundation.org or call 202-656-0442. Southwest Library.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, Mondays-Fridays at Noon (St. Dominic's Catholic Church) or Wednesday evenings (St. Augustine's Episcopal Church). Post-

See "Calendar," page 15

CALENDAR

Continued from p. 14

pandemic we have resumed live meetings. This fellowship is open to all men and women who desire to recover from alcoholism. You will be welcome; for more information, contact Josie at 202-880-6971.

BABY LAP TIME, Thursdays, 1-1:45 P.M. Fun for non-walking children ages birth to 1 year only. Space is limited; admission is first-come, first-served. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

BLUES MONDAYS, 6-9 P.M. Various Blues musicians and singers featured each Monday. \$10 cover and food for sale. Schedule at https://westminsterdc.org/jazz-%26-blues-1, Westminster Presbyterian Church.

BREAD FOR LIFE - BREAKFAST, Sundays, 8-8:45 A.M. Free Breakfast. The pandemic has forced us to change how we serve breakfast—but we still offer a free breakfast every week as a to-go bag with a breakfast sandwich, juice, fruit, and slice of cake. If you would like to volunteer with Bread for Life, please contact Virginia Mathis, lead organizer and kitchen manager for the program at thor081828@ hotmail.com. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church Community Room, 555 Water Street SW. www.staugustinesdc.org/bread-for-life

BUILDING BLOCKS, Tuesdays, 10:30 A.M. Let's explore construction play together every Tuesday! Southwest Library is excited to launch our new birth to 5 program: Building Blocks. Each Tuesday, from 10:30-11:30A.M., we'll explore the importance of construction play in children's development. Let's stack, building, knock down, count, and build back up again together. Construction play encourages independent thinking, problem solving, creativity, and sharing. This program is intended for children birth to five and their caregivers. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

CHAIR YOGA, Mondays, 11 A.M. - Noon. Gentle movements to increase flexibility, strength, balance & endurance, adapted for all body types. Careful instruction promotes proper breathing, meditation, positive thinking, & deep relaxation. Westminster Presbyterian Church. Any questions? Email instructor, Pamela Wilson, wilsonpj108@gmail.com

CHESS CLUB, Thursdays, 6 P.M. Southwest Neighborhood Library. Chess boards and pieces provided, just bring yourself and a desire to learn and hone your chess skills!

CHURCH CLEANING, 2nd Saturdays of the month, 9:35 P.M. St. Dominic Church. www.stdominicchurch. org/

COLOR MY WORLD, Thursdays, 4:30 P.M. Children of all ages are invited to join us for a Thursday afternoon coloring club, where we'll brighten up the world together. Coloring pages, designs, crayons, and coloring pencils will be provided. Southwest Library.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN PERSON WALK-IN CLINIC, Wednesdays, 1-4 P.M. Call DC Volunteers Lawyer Project to make an appointment: 202-425-7573. www. dcvlp.org/clinic/ Westminster Presbyterian Church.

ENCORE ROCKS CHOIR REHEARSAL, Tuesdays, 6:30-8 P.M. at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Tuition-based and led by a professional choral conductor. For additional information, contact: https://encorecreativity.org/programs/encore-rocks

EVENING PRAYER, Tuesdays, 6:30 P.M. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. https://www.staugustinesdc.org/

FAMILY STORY TIME, Mondays, 10:30 A.M. Fun for the entire family, these 30-40 minute story times are packed full of books and activities designed to be enjoyed by all ages. Promoting language and literacy skills, these story times are a great way to fur-

ther your child's lifelong love of reading and learning. Southwest Library.

FILM DISCUSSION CLUB, Tuesdays, 12 P.M. If you enjoy a good conversation and meeting new people, join this weekly film discussion club. View an independent, thought-provoking, short-film and engage in an informal discussion with others. Southwest Neighborhood Library - Large Meeting Room.

FREE PARENTS' TAX CLINIC WITH MOTHER'S OUT-REACH NETWORKS, Wednesdays, 11 A.M. Have you received your Child Tax Credit? Your Earned Income Tax Credit? Every Stimulus payment? If not, or if you have questions, stop by Southwest Library on Wednesday between 11 am and 1 pm. At no charge, we will consult with you about how to get your government refund, if eligible. This event is hosted by Mother's Outreach Network.

HOLY HOUR & CONFESSIONS, Thursdays, 7 P.M. St. Dominic Roman Catholic Church.

HYBRID GODLY PLAY FOR CHILDREN, Sundays, 10 A.M. 4-12 years old. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

HYBRID SEATED YOGA, Mondays, 11 A.M. - 12 P.M. Low impact stretches and mobility exercises performed under the direction of Pamela Wilson. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

HYBRID WORSHIP SERVICE, Sundays, 11 A.M. All Welcome to share in inspiring worship! Westminster Presbyterian Church.

JAZZ NIGHT IN SW, Fridays, 6-9 P.M. Various Jazz musicians and singers featured each Friday. \$10. Food for sale. Schedule at https://westminsterdc.org/jazz-night-in-dc-schedule. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

KOMEN TOASTMASTERS, First Saturdays of the month, 10:30 A.M. - 12 P.M. Southwest's Komen Toastmasters, a public speaking and leadership club, continues to meet on the first and third Saturday of each month from 10:30 am until noon, as it has for over 20 years. Komen Toastmasters offers a friendly and safe space for you to strengthen your public speaking and storytelling skills. Meetings are held online at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2123493184. https://8714.toastmastersclubs.org/

MAKE IT! Tuesdays, 4-5 P.M. Come make something awesome at the Southwest Library! Every Tuesday after school we'll make something--a craft, STEM project, experiment, or design. All materials provided--just bring your imagination! Southwest Neighborhood Library.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (ZOOM), Wednesdays, 7-8 P.M. Contact Westminster Presbyterian Church for more information at wpcdcoffice@gmail.com www.narcotics.com/na-meetings/washington-dc/

PARENTS' TAX CLINIC WITH MOTHER'S OUT-REACH NETWORK (FREE), Wednesdays, 11 A.M. - 1 P.M. Have you received your Child Tax Credit? Your Earned Income Tax Credit? Every Stimulus payment? If not, or if you have questions, stop by Southwest Library on Wednesday between 11 A.M. and 1 P.M. At no charge, we will consult with you about how to get your government refund, if eligible. This event is hosted by Mother's Outreach Network. Southwest Library. https://mothersoutreachnetwork.org/parentstaxclinic/

RELIGIOUS MOVIE SEMINAR, Sundays, 6:30 P.M. Meet in the Parish room at St. Dominic Roman Catholic Church. www.stdominicchurch.org/

RESISTANCE BIBLE STUDY (ZOOM), Tuesdays, 6:30 P.M. Discuss timely issues on Jesus and social justice. Westminster Presbyterian Church. https://westminsterdc.org/

REST AND REFLECT, Tuesdays, 6 P.M. To participate in-person for this chanted prayer session doors open 15 minutes before start time and lock promptly

at start time. Kadampa Meditation Center. www. meditation-dc.org/

RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH PROTEIN PANTRY, 2nd Sundays, 11:30 A.M. All are welcome! For more details contact rsbc@riverside.org. Riverside Baptist Church, 699 Maine Ave SW, https://riversidedc.org/

SENSORY PLAYTIME, Fridays, 10:30-11:30 A.M., Babies, toddlers, and preschoolers are invited to play and explore their senses in front of the Library. Just bring your imagination; we'll supply the materials. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary. org/southwest

SUNDAY MORNING MEDITATION, Sundays, 10 A.M. December Topic - How to Solve Our Human Problems. Suitable for everyone, these meditation classes offer practical methods to improve the quality of our lives through meditation and Buddhist teachings. Each class is available by drop-in and you can come to either the entire series for the month or by individual class. Each class is self-contained. Kadampa Meditation Center, 1200 Canal St SW. More at https://meditation-dc.org/sunday-mornings/.

SUNDAY UNWIND THE MIND MEDITATION, Sundays, 6:45 - 7:30 P.M. Suitable for everyone, these meditation classes offer practical methods to improve the quality of our lives through meditation and Buddhist teachings. Each class is available by drop in and you can come to either the entire series for the month or by individual class. Each class is self contained. Everyone is welcome. Kadampa Meditation Center, 1200 Canal St SW, www.meditation-dc. org/

THEMATIC BIBLE STUDY (Virtual), Second Thursdays, 7 P.M., If you don't know our Zoom channel address, just email Rev. Scott at priest@staugustinesdc.org and he will be happy to send you the info! All are very welcome to join us. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. https://www.staugustinesdc.org/

THURSDAY EVENING MEDITATION, Thursdays, 7:15 - 8:30 P.M. Suitable for everyone, these meditation classes offer practical methods to improve the quality of our lives through meditation and Buddhist teachings. Each class is available by drop in and you can come to either the entire series for the month or by individual class. Each class is self contained. Everyone is welcome. For support with our online classes, prayers & events: support@meditation-dc.org/

WASHINGTON STAMPS COLLECTORS CLUB (WSCC), First and Third Wednesdays, 7 P.M. Visitors are always welcome to take part in our meetings. Ring the church's doorbell at the Eye St entrance to enter the meeting. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th Street, SW. https://www.dcstampclub.org/

ZENTANGLES, Tuesdays, 6 P.M. Find your calm and your creativity. Try your hand at the slow-work art of pattern doodling called Zentangles! Southwest Library.

20's AND 30'S HAPPY HOUR - VIRTUAL, Second Thursdays, 6-7 P.M. The 20's & 30's group meets virtually for Happy Hour, and you're invited! Here, you'll find young adults creating time and space for intentional community. All are welcome to this space. This Happy Hour is meeting VIRTUALLY via Google Meet. - https://meet.google.com/yny-tdqk-iir. For additional information or questions, please email Lori at Lopitts12@gmail.com.

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.



WILL YOU HELP MAKE SOUTHWEST A BETTER PLACE?

Thanks to your support, 2022 was a banner year for Friends of Southwest DC. We awarded almost \$60,000 in grants, which is far more than ever before! The increasing demand for grants reflects continuing needs in our Southwest neighborhood and shows that local organizations are ready to roll up their sleeves and work for a better Southwest if we can provide resources.

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO OUR SPRING FUNDRAISING DRIVE!



Spread the word. Know a worthy neighborhood cause?
Let them know about Friends of Southwest DC. We accept applications year-round for educational, charitable, and community development grants.

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Donate. Your tax-deductible gift is welcome throughout the year.
Donate online at
FriendsofSWDC.org/donate

or mail your check to: Friends of Southwest DC P.O. Box 44434 Washington, DC 20026



Friends of Southwest DC is a 501(3)(c) nonprofit organization. All our work is done by volunteers, so your contribution goes to help Southwest residents.

We support The Southwester through our advertising.