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**JULY 2023** 12,500 PAPERS PRINTED THIS MONTH

## New Buzzard Point Location Means Expansion, Growth for DC Central Kitchen

BY GUY ALDRIDGE

C Central Kitchen (DCCK) opened its doors at a new expansive Buzzard Point facility in March. Last month, The Southwester took a tour of the Klein Center for Jobs & Justice at 2121 First Street SW. "The Klein Center is more than just a building for us," CEO Michael Curtin, Jr. said in a press release. "Our new home will allow us to triple our capacity, providing the healthy food and job training opportunities that our community needs more urgently than ever before."

#### The New Location

Having won the Best Lease of 2020 award from Washington Business Journal, DCCK is taking over a 36,000 square foot space in the former U.S. Coast Guard headquarters. The nine-floor building is owned by an LLC that is ultimately under the umbrella of the United Services Automobile Association (USAA), according to city records. It was redeveloped in 2020 by Akridge, Western Development Corporation and Orr Partners, and is



The cafe at DC Central Kitchen's new location at 2121 First Street SW will offer coffee and light fare to the public.

currently managed by Akridge. Occupying most of the building are apartments and retail storefronts - one of which is already leased by The Point restaurant.

DCCK began planning for the new

space about a decade ago, and it's a bit of a change-up from its former home in the basement of the Federal City Shelter at Second Street NW and D Street NW. The

See "Kitchen," page 12



**SOUTHWEST** COMMUNITY **GARDENS CELEBRATES** 10 YEARS

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**SOUTHWEST BLOCK PARTY RETURNS TO** KICK OFF SUMMER

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GLOVES SPREAD-ING LOVE BRINGS **BOXING EVENT TO** GREENLEAF REC

Page 13

## Amidon-Bowen Bids Farewell to Coach Frank Briscoe – a True Advocate for the Youth

BY MATT KOEHLER

mokey Robinson's falsetto flooded the gymnasium of Amidon-Bowen Elementary School on a balmy early June afternoon. The school year was coming to a close there was a changing of the guard between the fourth and fifth grade, little ones were making the leap from PreK to Kindergarten, and the youngest just finished their first year in school. Change was in the air. Seconding that change (and emotion), Coach Frank



Courtesy of Hugh Ho

Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen addresses the crowd at a ceremony for retiring Amidon-Bowen Elementary School Coach Frank Briscoe.

Briscoe ambled out onto the gym floor, where he guided so many young athletes over the years, officially for the last time.

The surprise commemoration ceremony for Briscoe honored his 40-year career in teaching and coaching athletics in the DC Public Schools (DCPS) - the final years spent at Amidon-Bowen. The whole school was present, including many parents, the coach's wife and immediate family, and even Ward 6 Councilmem-

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#### The Southwester

P.O. Box 70131 • Washington, DC 20024

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Printer: Print Innovators

The Southwester is published and distributed by the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly

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## **WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

## Former SWNA Scholar Nick Moses: Future Educator and Leader

BY JOHN WHITE

he Southwest Waterfront has birthed, educated and nurtured youths who overcame challenges to reach great heights. The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly's (SWNA) Education and Scholarship Task Force (ESTF) has been a hub in our incubator, and 27 year old Nicholas (Nick) Moses is a promising beneficiary; well on his way to achieving greatness and paying it forward.

Moses received ESTF scholarships in 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021. He grew up living in Greenleaf Gardens and James Creek and attended Anthony Bowen Elementary School and Jefferson Middle School. At Bowen, a committed and no-nonsense teacher, Ms. Williamson, lit the spark that inspired Moses to become an educator. A City Year AmeriCorps internship serving as a Student Success Coach and Team Lead in elementary schools later strengthened his commitment to a career in public education.

Moses attended Anacostia High School, Virginia State University and Colorado Technical University where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Psychology. He will earn his Master of Arts in Teaching Elementary Education degree at American University next year. Moses thrives on the intentional engagement and opportunities



Courtesy of Nick Moses

Nicholas (Nick) Moses

to impact public and charter school students that comes with being in the classroom.

The Southwest Boys and Girls Club (now defunct, but previously based at Bowen) and the King Greenleaf Recreation Center engaged Moses in football and Taekwondo among other extracurricular activities. A high school music teacher, Mr. Keith Kilgo, introduced him to the trombone. A few years later, Moses earned a scholarship to play in a marching band at the collegiate level.

When playing in the band left too

little time and energy for his studies, he chose to pivot away from music and transfer schools. With support from relatives and community, Moses overcame this and other hardships. His struggles and those of neighbors reinforced his desire to serve and advocate for the underserved. He grew into a soft-spoken, relaxed activist outside and in the classroom.

Moses has taught in several elementary schools, both DC Public Schools and charter schools, where he lives for the "a-ha" moments. He was moved by differences he observed in challenges, opportunities and resources across the two school systems. As an anti-bias educator committed to addressing structural and systemic inequalities, Moses hopes to reduce disparities to better serve our neediest youths. He encourages and helps his students to advocate for themselves.

Inspired by former educators who've spent decades making an impact in the classroom, he is well on his way to a successful career, having already earned a coveted "Highly Effective" performance evaluation.

Moses shared that he is grateful for our community's support, and hopes to help ESTF expand its reach. We should all keep our eyes on this young, emerging leader, and do all we can to sustain the local institutions that helped launch him.

#### COACH

Continued from p. 1

ber Charles Allen.

After a performance by the Tiger Cheer Squad, Principal TaMikka Sykes took to the microphone. "Seven years ago, Coach Briscoe walked into my office and asked to be coach," she told the gathered assembly. She talked about Briscoe's 40 years of coaching and teaching and said that because of him, the students were stronger, healthier, and better educated. "You've been consistent and most of all, you've shown up. I want you to know that you are loved and you will be missed."

Several speeches were made by students, as well as video presentations, and everyone expounded on Briscoe's dedication and exceptionalism. "You don't have to be the best, to do your best," said one little student. Another said that Briscoe was "the greatest coach ever." A fourth grader said that Briscoe had "given [him] more confidence."

To punctuate their own words,

many students were in tears after the

"I've been very fortunate to coach kids at Amidon Elementary school," Briscoe told everyone. "We have great athletes at Amidon and what I enjoy most is seeing their faces light up." He also said that seeing the kids gain that spark of wanting to learn and grow as athletes has been motivating and invigorating for him. "Most of the people I've come across have greatness in them. Other times, you have to bring it out of them."

Closing out his farewell speech, Briscoe turned to Sykes and said, "She's been a wonderful principal, and I truly love her."

As an extra thank you for Briscoe's service to DCPS, especially Amidon-Bowen, the PTA and Sykes commissioned a plaque that will go in the gymnasium, which is being named after the coach.

Though no one can replace Briscoe, he won't be leaving Amidon-Bowen without stellar replacements, and served on the selection committee that chose two outstanding replacements. Avery Queen, a health

and physical education teacher, has 10 years of coaching experience and six years teaching health and PE. Emoni Smith is a DC native and physical education teacher with nine years of experience. She's also an All-Star Cheerleading coach. They both said they're looking forward to continuing the athletic tradition that Frank Briscoe built at Amidon-Bowen.

There are many focal points in neighborhoods - especially neighborhoods with long memories. Amidon-Bowen Elementary school is such a focal point, a nexus of sorts where powerful and transformative memories take place. Championships have been won there. Future generations have played and perfected their game there. Astronauts have come down from their rocket ships to visit. And last month the school and community gathered its collective energy around another focal point in sending off Coach Frank Briscoe. A great teacher and advocate for the future - a shaper of transformative memories - "the greatest coach ever" to quote an Amidon-Bowen fourth grader. A man that will truly be missed.



# Splash into a Swimmable Anacostia On July 8 with Special Event from Anacostia Riverkeeper

BY PETRA BALDWIN, PROJECT COORDI-NATOR, ANACOSTIA RIVERKEEPER

id you know that kids used to splash around in the Anacostia River in the summer? Today, this urban waterway that runs through the heart of DC is perceived as dirty and unhealthy. Despite the environmental issues still facing the Anacostia River, water quality has drastically improved over the past few decades. We are as close as we have ever been to bringing back a swimmable Anacostia.

In celebration of these water quality milestones, Anacostia Riverkeeper will be hosting the first permitted swim event in the river in over 50 years.

## Why can't we swim in the Anacostia River now?

Since 1971, swimming or wading in the Anacostia River and other District waters has been illegal due to safety concerns around water quality.

The primary water quality concern for swimming and other recreation is bacteria, which can pose health risks to those who come in contact with the water. For the Anacostia River, this is mainly tied to DC's sewers. Much of DC's sewer system, built before 1900, is a combined sewer system that mixes stormwater and sewage. Normally this does not pose an issue, but during heavy rain events the mixture of storm-

water and sewage overflows into the Anacostia River. With an ever-growing population and stronger storms due to climate change, an average of two *billion* gallons of sewage overflowed into the Anacostia annually before 2018.

#### Is water quality getting better?

Yes! Through infrastructure improvements like the CleanRivers tunnels implemented by DC Water, sewage overflows into the Anacostia River have been drastically reduced. The Anacostia River Tunnel came online in 2018 and has since reduced sewage overflows into the river by 90%. The Northeast Boundary Tunnel is set to go online later this year, and is estimated to bring that reduction up to 98%.

Anacostia Riverkeeper's water quality monitoring on the river has tracked this

progress, finding low bacteria levels most of the time at certain sites. In 2022, monitoring sites at Kingman Island, Buzzard Point, and Washington Channel passed recreational water quality standards over 90% of the time. Other sites like National Arboretum, Anacostia Park, and Yards Park also



Courtesy of Anacostia Riverkeep

Anacostia Riverkeeper's water quality monitoring tracks progress toward a safe, swimmable waterway.

show promising results, with passing bacteria levels over 50% of the time. These trends have continued for the 2023 monitoring season so far.

## Why is it important to have a swimmable river?

Access to abundant, healthy spaces for outdoor recreation is vital for the wellbeing of our communities. In an urban environment like DC, it is especially important to have access to natural water resources. With rising temperatures due to climate change and the urban heat island effect, having areas to cool down on a hot summer day is critical. Splash pads and swimming pools can offer this, but a whole river freely available to use is the self-sustaining environment we need.

Before the swim ban, restricted access to swimming pools led many residents of the predominantly Black and low-income communities around the Anacostia River to swim in the river. Today, we see many people enjoying the river in other ways: power boating,

kayaking, rowing, fishing, and even wading in some areas. Our communities should be able to do all these activities – and swim – freely & safely in all areas of the Anacostia.

## Splash 2023: A Glimpse Into Tomorrow

With the improvements in water quality we've witnessed in the past several decades, and especially since 2018, the swim ban could be lifted in the next few years.

For now, the DC Department of Energy and Environment has implemented an amendment to the swim ban to allow permitted swim events in District waters. Through this process, Anacostia Riverkeeper is hosting the first sanctioned swimming event – *Splash* – in the Anacostia River in over 50 years.

Join us on July 8th to make a splash towards a swimmable Anacostia. *Splash* will provide

a rare chance for residents to swim in and reconnect with the river.

Contingent on water quality results the week prior, participants will be able to swim briefly in the river off the Kingman Island Dock next to the Benning Road Bridge during a designated 20-minute time slot from 1-3pm. The backup date in case of cancellation is July 22nd. You can register on Anacostia Riverkeeper's Eventbrite for one of our limited slots and make history with us this summer.

Please note that swimming is still illegal in District waters and you may only swim during a sanctioned swim event like *Splash* with a permit from DOEE. Anacostia Riverkeeper does not encourage swimming in the river outside of these events.

Learn more about Anacostia Riverkeeper's water quality monitoring and other programs connecting people to the river and working to make the Anacostia swimmable for all at anacostiariverkeeper.org.

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## **Faith Community**

## Christ United Methodist Church: Southwest's Little Church that Dared

BY MARVA GUMBS JENNINGS AND DARYL BYLER, CHRIST UNITED **METHODIST CHURCH** 

hrist United Methodist Church (CUMC) has occupied the corner of 4th and I Streets SW since 1961 when the merger of two churches — Gorsuch Memorial and Lewis Memorial— was the embodiment of an interracial worshiping community during the height of the civil rights movement. The unique mid-century style building also showcases some unusual architectural and interior design features.

Throughout the years, CUMC has engaged the community through social justice initiatives, including affordable housing, supplying food to DC area shelters, serving as the Southwest location for the SHARE program and providing the first farmer's market in Southwest on the front steps of the church with the Dreaming Out Loud organization and a host of other individual and group projects. A highlight for years was the monthly breakfast cooked by the men of the church and opened to the community for a very nominal cost of \$5.00 and the annual Jazz Vespers concert. The church also hosted a senior program, served as a before and after school program for children from Amidon-Bowen elementary school and for many years hosted a nursery/preschool program.

To address the lack of food pantries in Southwest, the 5,000 Food Ministry was started. Then came the pandemic and the physical closing of the church building. A week later, CUMC began operating and worshiping virtually. More significantly during this period, in recognition of the pandemic's impact on the growing food insecurity in the neighborhood, and with permission from the Mayor's office and the development of safety protocols, the 5,000 Food Ministry continued

**MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS** 

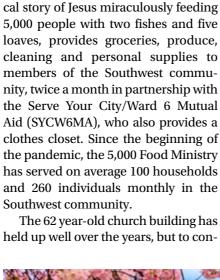
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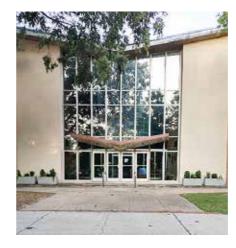




and grew significantly. This ministry,

whose name is based on the bibli-

held up well over the years, but to con-



Courtesy of the Author

Christ United Methodist Church

tinue serving the community as the headquarters for the 5,000 Food Ministry and the Ward 6 Mutual Aid Supply Pod, two major construction projects are underway-replacing the church roof as well as the HVAC system with an all-electric energy-efficient model. Given these major projects, CUMC has launched a capital campaign, \$500,000 for the 5,000, to support the work which is slated to take place this summer. For contributions to the capital campaign visit our website https:// christchurchinthecity.org/ or to learn more about CUMC's ministries, email cumcdc@gmail.com.



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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Purchase/Sales Price of Property	Amount of Cash Back			
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\$100,000 - \$149,000	\$700			
\$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			
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	\$6,000			
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# An Evening with the Smith Center for Healing and the Arts

BY LISA SIMMS BOOTH AND THELMA D. JONES

re you interested in learning more about the true meaning of healing and the importance of community for cancer patients? If so, join the Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund (TDJBCF) for the fifth consecutive year for an evening with Smith Center for Healing and the Arts on Wednesday, July 19 at 6:30 p.m. You can join via Zoom or the TDJBCF Facebook page. The Smith Center for Healing and the Arts, a nonprofit health, education, and arts organization located in the heart of U Street NW, focuses on whole person care and is a leader in the nationwide movement to promote the use of the

arts in healing. The Smith Center's mission is to develop and promote healing practices that explore physical, emotional, and mental wellness and lead to life-affirming changes.

Back by popular demand, the support group meeting will be emceed by Lisa Simms Booth, Executive Director of the Smith Center for Healing and the Arts. During the meeting, Booth will lead a robust conversation with Smith Center colleagues Erin Price, the Young Adult & Psychosocial Support Program Director and Kiersten Gallagher, the Cancer Support Program Director, along with Laura Pole from CancerChoices. You'll hear about the true meaning of healing and the power of the 7 Healing Prac-

tices which can be pathways to restoring your mind, body and spirit during cancer. CancerChoices' mission is to reduce suffering and support healing and resilience among people with cancer. CancerChoices seeks to help people make skillful choices in conventional care, complementary care, and self-care. The 7 Healing Practices include Exploring What Matters Now, Eating Well, Moving More, Managing Stress, Sleeping Well, Creating a Healing Environment, and Sharing Love and Support. This evening will focus on providing hands-on information that you can use to improve your physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

This conversation is rooted in the

Smith Center's philosophy that healing is a natural and often deeply personal process that encompasses the entire spectrum of our lives – physical, mental, emotional, and even spiritual. The Smith Center believes that every individual possesses the innate powers to heal within.

So, mark your calendar and join us for another exciting evening in learning more about cancer programs, patient navigation, and arts and healing -- something we can all benefit from after experiencing the shutdown of our nation from the pandemic.

For more information on the support group meeting, please visit www. tdjbreastcancerfund.org or email thelma@tdjbreastcancerfund.org.

# Inaugural Southwest DC Juneteenth Festival Draws Crowds





Photography by Marlo/Text by Jackie L. Williams, Ph.D.

On June 17, 2023, the historic Carron Baptist Church welcomed residents to celebrate and participate in the Inaugural Southwest DC Juneteenth Festival. Nearly 300 festival-goers joined together for storytelling, dance, food, and community service information.





Courtesy of Reth Hall

#### **Circuit Rideshare**

The Circuit Rideshare is offering new transportation options to Southwest residents, with both fixed routes and on-demand, app-based rides as part of DC's multi-year Mobility Innovation District project. Pictured above, Waterfront Village members use the service en route to an art show.



Courtesy of Fredo Vasquez

Summer brings the return of the Friday night Market SW events to the lot at M Street and 4th Street SW, featuring community gatherings, music, dancing, food and art.

## Southwest Community Gardens Celebrates 10 Years with Community Event July 29

BY PAMELA MCKINNEY

outhwest Community Gardens will celebrate its 10th anniversary on Saturday, July 29 from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in Lansburgh Park (1098 Delaware Ave SW), and we hope you can join us! The event will include music from JoGo Project, a local GoGo/jazz fusion

band, as well as food and kids' music and movement activities with City Sing And Play.

As part of the celebrations, we've partnered with Inside Out Project, "a platform that helps communities around the world to stand up for what they believe in and spark global change locally," to highlight some of the people over our 10-year history who have ensured the garden maintains our mission "to create a space where neighbors can connect with one another in a hands-on, peaceful, and respectful environment around



Scan the QR code to support the Southwest Garden's ten year anniversary celebration.

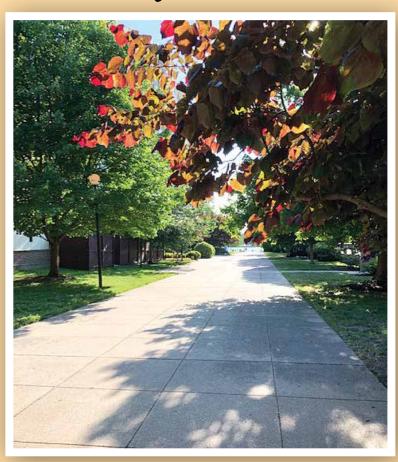
the activity of growing produce." Visit insideoutproject.net to learn more.

To help make the event possible, Southwest Gardens is fundraising to cover all costs so that the event is free for all attendees. To donate, visit bit.ly/swgardens2023 and help us reach our goal of \$5,000! Additional funds will be used to repair some

of our garden beds that have fallen into disrepair after 10 years. We're grateful they have lasted as long as they have!

Additionally, we are selling 10th anniversary T-shirts and tank tops to commemorate this special anniversary! If you are interested in purchasing one, please contact us at swgardensdc@gmail. As always, anyone is welcomed to the garden during our communal hours on Sundays from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

# Photo of the Month



Courtesy of Irene Allen

Light and shadow on the walk to the waterfront.

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



## Arena Stage Names New Artistic Director, Board Chair

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

rena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater announced the selection of Hana Sharif as the next Artistic Director as well as the unanimous election of Catherine Guttman-McCabe to serve as Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Sharif, currently the Augustin Family Artistic Director of The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, will succeed Molly Smith, who is retiring from Arena Stage in June after 25 years with the company. In her current position, Sharif led the organization through a cultural transformation also after the retirement of an iconic leader. She diversified programming, piloted a range of new programming during the COVID-19 pandemic, and launched a virtual theatrical series that brought together famous local chefs, mixologists, local bands, and media personalities, preparing her for her new role as only the fourth Artistic Director in Arena Stage history.

"I have the honor of following three visionary leaders, two of whom are women who have led the organization for 65 of its almost 75 years," Sharif said in a press release. "I see my appointment as a natural and exciting extension of that leadership; creating,



Courtesy of Cheshire Isaac



Courtesy of Potomac Law Group

Hana Sharif

riaria silarii

presenting, and producing art that continues to explore how we tell the story of an evolving America. Staying rooted in the American voice is really important, and a mission that truly excites me. There are many theaters, but there's only one Arena, and I can't sin

wait to begin the journey."

"Hana's own origin story has prepared her like no other artist for this moment at Arena," said Edgar Dobie, Arena Stage Executive Producer, in a press release. "It's a great day when human values, grace, and authenticity—which Hana owns in abundance—rhyme with the rich opportunities available at our about-to-be 75-year-young enterprise. Hana

brings joy with her, and our arms, minds, and hearts are wide open to that joy."

Catherine Guttman-McCabe

Guttman-McCabe began her term as Board Chair on May 1, after serving on Arena Stage's Board of Trustees since 2018 and chairing the Artistic Director Search Committee which brought Sharif in to her new role. A partner at Potomac Law Group (PLG), Guttman-McCabe will replace predecessor Decker Anstrom, who led the board since 2019, and who will continue to serve as Immediate Past Chair.

"I am honored to serve as Chair of Arena Stage, following Decker Anstrom's tremendous leadership, which deftly brought us through the first phase of the COVID-19 pandemic," said Guttman-McCabe in a press release. "As Molly passes her baton to Hana, so too do I take it from Decker, mindful of the work we still have ahead of us as we fully emerge from the pandemic. I have no doubt in my mind that the partnership between Hana and Edgar will be strong and vibrant, and I am committed to supporting them and the entire company as we grow our audiences, expand Arena's connections to the community, and start planning to celebrate our 75th anniversary season, which begins July 2024."



## Community Supports Housewarming for Families at the Aya

BY REGINA MAZUR

erve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid (SYC/W6MA) has been fulfilling its mission for over three years. Due to their tireless efforts, the community residents can receive the assistance and resources they need. One of the efforts by SYC/W6MA is its partnership with The AYA.

The AYA is the city's short term family shelter, which opened in Southwest three years ago and provides shelter for up to 50 families that have found themselves homeless. The AYA staff works with each family to set up the support they need to move into apartments of their own. SYC/ W6MA partnered with the AYA staff early on to see how they could assist the families, they learned that many families have lost everything when they became homeless, and though the program ensures that they have beds and basic furniture, starting over is a great challenge. Due to the generosity of the Southwest community, SYC/W6MA has been able to provide families with housewarming boxes to take to their new homes.

A lot of thought goes into what these boxes contain, with the main focus to make the first week in a new home easier. These boxes have food: such as soup, vegetables, fruits, and pasta, they have condiments neces-





Courtesy of SYC/W6MA

Southwest Farmers Market vendors and shoppers partner with Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid to provide fresh produce to neighbors in the community.

sary for cooking such as salt/pepper, mayonnaise, sugar, and cooking oil. They contain towels, bedding, kitchen utensils, cleaning supplies, some dishes as well as pots and pans. These housewarming boxes are greatly appreciated by the families as they are settling into their new homes.

Providing these housewarming boxes has been made possible by community donations of towels, bedding, pots/pans, cleaning/paper products, and food items. With 3-4 families moving out each month, additional donations are needed and appreciated. Donations are accepted Wednesdays from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the basement of Christ United Methodist Church at 900 4th

Street SW. There is also a tent each Saturday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Southwest Farmers Market at 4th & M Streets.

At the Farmer's Market, Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid is also accepting donations of fresh produce, dairy, and baked goods from shoppers and market vendors. This fresh produce is distributed every Saturday at 2:00 p.m. Groceries, cleaning, and personal supply distributions take place during the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month at 2:00 p.m. at 900 4th St SW.

#### **MORE WAYS TO HELP:**

Support DC's Black and Brown K-12 Scholars with SYC/W6MA's Free Summer Programs: Want to help DC's

Black and Brown K-12 scholars thrive? Consider donating to Serve Your City/ Ward 6 Mutual Aid (SYC/W6MA) and support our Free School for Unlimited Youth Summer 2023 Programs. We offer a range of enriching activities and field trips, including music, art, trapeze, and writing, catering to various interests while fostering personal growth and academic success. Your donation goes a long way in supporting our "solidarity, NOT charity" mission to provide quality summer programs. Visit bit.ly/sycsummer to make a difference in the lives of our scholars or email youthenrichment@ serveyourcitydc.org to learn more

**Current Donation Needs:** Below are our greatest needs. Donations can

See "Housewarming," page 13

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**Eagle Academy** is the first early childhood charter school established in 2003. We set the standard of excellence for educating young children in the District of Columbia.

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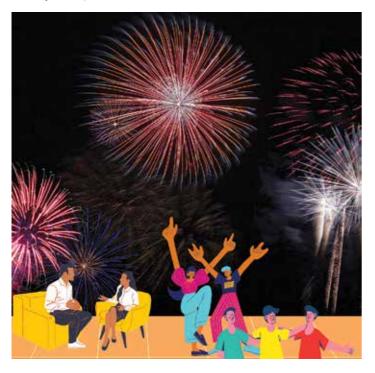
FREE TOTE BAG when you take a complimentary 20 minute tour.



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?



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## Answers from June 2023 issue

**Differences:** In the right picture, there is an airplane; in the right picture, there is an orange and yellow fish, while it is a green fish in the left picture; in the right picture, a girl is wearing a hat; the balloon that the girl is holding is different in each picture; in the right picture, there is a crab in the corner; a girl's shirt is different in each picture.

### **WORD SEARCH: INDEPENDENCE DAY!**

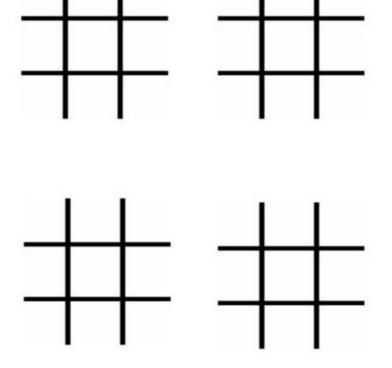
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## Young Readers

## Summer Book Clubs Abound for Young Readers

BY KITTY FELDE

here will be those days this summer when venturing outside in 90 degree heat with 90% humidity is too much to imagine. Even your kids refuse to go outside. How do you keep them off the gaming devices? Sign them up for a book club.

Summer is the perfect time to join a book club. It keeps their brains working, helping to fight "summer slide." It cuts down on screen time. Kids can meet new friends. And there's often rewards for participants.

Our local bookstores are all in. On Capitol Hill, EAST CITY BOOKS hosts two kidlit book clubs. The PageTurners is for readers between 8 and 11 years old. Their next meeting is Sunday, August 6th at 3PM when they'll be discussing Cameron Battle and the Hidden Kingdoms by Jamar J. Perry. Older readers aged 11-13 have their own club. Be(Tween) Reads' next meeting is also Sunday, August 6th at 4:15 PM when readers will discuss Simon Sort of Says by Erin Bow.

Up on H Street, SOLID STATE BOOKS hosts a Middle Grade book club for young readers every other month. Their next meeting is also August 6th at 6PM. They'll tackle Roseanne Brown's Serwa Boateng's Guide to Vampire Hunting.

Don't forget our own DC PUBLIC LIBRARY's Discover Summer reading program. Kids get a bag and free tickets to a Nats game. They're also entered into a raffle for tickets to the International Spy Museum or a DC United game.

Looking for a virtual book club? Try the BOOK CLUB FOR KIDS podcast, available wherever you listen to podcasts. This free show features kids from around the country who discuss a book, interview the author, and hear a reading from the book by a celebrity. Kids can participate remotely by recording themselves on the voice memo app of a smartphone talking about their own favorite book.

Don't be jealous: you can join a grown-up book club, too. Most bookstores and the DC Public Library host book clubs for adults on various topics.

Kitty Felde writes The Fina Mendoza Mysteries series of books and podcasts. Book 1: Welcome to Washington Fina **Mendoza** has just been re-released in English and Spanish.

## Southwest Moment



Courtesy of Fredo Vasquez

On a summer evening, Phase Two of The Wharf is reflected in the glass of St. Augustine's church on Maine Avenue SW.



#### **KITCHEN**

Continued from p. 1

Klein Center is now nestled between the riverfront to the south and several blocks of construction projects to the north. DCCK is now just "steps from" some of its biggest partners, including the Nationals and Audi Field, as well as hiring partners such as the Wharf, according to DCCK Director of Communications & Marketing Melissa Gold

Buzzard Point is not only near stadiums, shopping and new mixed use highrises, but also lower-income DC residents who may also benefit from their proximity to DCCK. The new facility is "at the crossroads of the communities that we serve," said Gold. "We're blocks from one of the neighborhoods that sees the highest rate of poverty in the city," she added, as the kitchen has been working in James Creek and Greenleaf for years.

At present, getting to the Klein Center is not as straightforward for many Washingtonians as it may have been at its old location. Southwest has historically been a cul-de-sac within DC, and not only because it's bordered on two sides by water. Though Wheat Row was likely the first housing built in the new capital city in the final decade of the eighteenth century, developers and new residents quickly shunned Southwest, looking farther north in Washington for housing projects.

Just a couple decades later, the Washington City Canal dissected the neighborhood from the rest of the city. Beset with problems from the beginning and made more or less obsolete by the invention of the railroad, the canal was filled in in the mid eighteenth century and ultimately paved over. Then, to add insult to injury, in the mid twentieth century the city razed entire blocks to put in the elevated freeway with retaining walls – I-395/695 – that we all know today.

Still, there are options for Washingtonians outside Southwest to get to the Klein Center. DCCK offers a free shuttle from the Waterfront metro station during morning and afternoon rush hours, and Navy Yard metro station is about a mile walk. Second Street offers a protected bike lane and the 74 bus line stops in front of the building. A proposed Blue Line Loop may one day add another underground stop in Buzzard Point, but that plan is not yet determined and, needless to say, far off from completion.

#### The New Headquarters

The Klein Center welcomes all entrants, including staff, through its main door at the corner of First Street and V Street to get more people interacting after the pulling back of COVID restrictions. Inside, DCCK's third and newest cafe is tucked into the spacious lobby. Clean lines, bright colors, and glass walls help create a sense of



Courtesy of DC Central Kitchen (via Flickr)

The first shift of volunteers at the new Klein Center for Jobs and Justice at the DC Central Kitchen's Buzzard Point facility prepares food.

transparency from the first step visitors take inside. The new space was designed by ZGF Architects and artist Robin Bell designed its digital donor wall. Bell is most well-known for his video works and for his provocative projections, which are often exhibited on prominent buildings.

Beyond the welcome desk and cafe are the two primary food production kitchens, and one additional food prep station. The larger of the two could house the entire operation at DCCK's old headquarters – including kitchen, administrative, and office space – with still "a square foot or two" to spare, said Gold.

DCCK is looking forward to being able to increase the number of Culinary Job Training graduates by 150 percent at 2121 First Street SW, taking the number yearly from around 100 to 250 in the next three to four years. The total number of graduates since DCCK's founding in 1989 is well over 2,000. The kitchen is also creating 50 new full-time jobs and doubling its daily meal production to 25,000 nutritious, locally sourced meals.

The second, smaller kitchen is for culinary job training. Designed to mirror the size of and boast the features of a typical professional kitchen, it is also the "footprint of the old, main kitchen." DCCK had been producing as many as 10,000 meals a day out of a kitchen this size at its old facility. In the new culinary job training kitchen, students can access "anything you would find in a commercial kitchen," including equipment and instructors.

A third space, the CoBank Volunteer Zone, is where up to about 60 volunteers chop, prep, and package foods for the community. Individuals and groups come in shifts from 9am until noon every day, and DCCK is adding an evening volunteer slot as of June. CoBank, a cooperative bank serving rural America, is a longtime partner of DCCK and recently donated \$2 million to fund the new Volunteer Zone.

DCCK emphasizes its new "dignified" amenities for students, staff, and volunteers. For instance, rather than having to leave belongings in "cages" and older, used lockers, modern lockers with programmable key codes are available. Other amenities include The Hub, a large lunch and break room, as well as study rooms for students who are in other degree programs.

On the second floor, there are wellness rooms that can be used for prayer, breastfeeding, or more. Previously, staff would pray "in their car, next to a trash bin or a dumpster in the parking lot," but now, there is a "room they can reserve for themselves." New mothers can breastfeed in "dignified, comfortable places."

The Klein Center also boasts classroom and meeting spaces that are
"fully, technically advanced," where
students meet to discuss a variety of
topics. When *The Southwester* toured
the facility, students were being led by
an instructor in recovery. Many who
go through the program "are working through traumas," Gold said, but
others with substance abuse or other
issues benefit from the program.
"That recovery support group is available to anybody in our organization,"
said Gold, giving graduates access to
ongoing "group support."

DCCK has added new ways to interact with business partners and other nonprofits. In addition to conference floors on the main floor, there are additional rentable facilities on the second floor, such as a boardroom. Groups that volunteer in the morning, for instance, could reserve meeting spaces in the afternoon for company retreats. Some organizations have done a "volunteer shift in the morning, and then they rented out the classroom for the afternoon," explained Gold. DCCK even offers catering to the public as one of its social enterprises.

The full-time staff offices on the second floor are also designed with transparency in mind. The workstations are cubicles with low walls, and partial walls along the edge allow someone to look down from the second floor to the first.

Even before the pandemic, some staff were based at the main kitchen on Second Street, Gold said, others at a nutrition lab on Bladensburg Road, and another group at the Town Hall Arts Education Recreation Center (THEARC). "Even before COVID we were very segmented, so now it's lovely to be able to be in this one space," Gold added. The space is "intentionally designed" for maximum interaction.

#### 2023 and Beyond

The move to Buzzard Point represents a major expansion for DCCK. The Klein Center expands capacity for bringing students through the program, ramps up its donations to those in need, and allows its ventures – such as the Health Corners and Healthy School Food Ventures – to grow.

The Klein Center has some room for expanding within its walls, by rearranging workspaces to accommodate new hires. However, the remaining commercial spaces in 2121 First Street SW are either going or gone, with leases signed on many of the remaining commercial fronts. That isn't worrying DCCK. As exciting as planning future expansion in other spaces may be, DCCK's intention for now "is not to be decentralized" as much as possible.

The new headquarters represents more than just an expansion of services. It's a transition that opens a host of new opportunities for DCCK. Planning began over a decade ago, but the move has come to be exceedingly well-timed. Since then, the pandemic and recent market downturn have upended the way we shop, eat, and do business, as well as financial forecasts for the future.

DCCK has been largely isolated from the market downturn of the past year, but even it has a few investments, such as securities, on its books. Renting out spaces for companies and organizations to meet is a new revenue stream that could add some buffer room. DCCK also aspires to have one of its cafes in every ward of the city, if possible. And Gold said the Healthy Corners Venture, which currently supplies 53 stores with fresh produce on a transactional basis, could be scaled up beyond DC's borders – nationally, even.

Beyond opening doors for expanded revenue generation, the community kitchen looks forward to being able to continue funding its main mission through continuing community support. And it's necessary. The rollback of COVID assistance and other programs has made the work of DCCK more needed than ever, Gold said. Many DC residents had "expanded benefits" during the Public Health Emergency, especially through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). But as those provisions were rolled back over the past few months, "people had their benefits chopped, almost in half," Gold said.

Even though the broader market has recently seen significant realized

## Gloves Spreading Love Brings Boxing Event to Greenleaf Rec

BY PAUL TAYLOR

n Saturday, May 27, King Greenleaf Recreation Center's outdoor basketball court was transformed into a boxing venue. The first annual Gloves Spreading





Courtesy of Paul Taylor

The first Annual

Gloves Spreading
Love event brought
amateur boxers and
hundreds of community members
together at King
Greenleaf Recreation
Center.

Love Amateur Boxing Event brought together hundreds of community and family members to watch fighters from up and down the East Coast, including Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, New York, Delaware, Philadelphia, Richmond and Baltimore. Boxers ranging in age from 8-25 participated in 19 bouts, including a finale of a spectator closing bout between two up and coming amateurs fighters

from DC and New York City.

Sponsors supporting the event included SW BID, Hand2HeartDC, SW Comm-Unity Forum, Conscious Eye Design and DC Parks & Recreation Sports Office. The organizers also offered special thanks to the First District Police Department, King Greenleaf Staff and SW BID Environmental Ambassadors.



ourtesy of Guy Aldridge

Ka'Lina Brown enjoys the Foamboree foam party at the June 3 Southwest Block Party.

# Southwest Block Party Returns to Kick Off Summer 2023

BY GUY ALDRIDGE

ashingtonians gathered at the Southwest Block Party at Lansburgh Park on June 3, where music, food, and fun was provided by a number of sponsors. King Ribs BBQ was provided to attendees, and there was fun for all ages. Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner played a long set, with some in the audience grooving along to his blues and funk tunes. Kids had a variety of activities to enjoy, while everyone could peruse information booths from Friends of Titanic Memorial Park.

The event also marked flood awareness week, and there were information booths with information about issues related to flooding to Washingtonians. The staff of DC's Department of Energy & Environment had a fun diorama set up to demonstrate the importance of having green spaces and trying to limit impervious surfaces. The Water and Sewer Authority and Department of Insurance, Securities, and Banking also had information booths There was also a scavenger hunt for kids to participate in and a Foamboree foam party that made for a memorable day.

#### **HOUSEWARMING**

Continued from p. 9

be dropped off at the Pod during its open hours.

**Food:** chicken, peanut butter, pasta sauce, soup, rice, box milk, powdered drink mix

**Cleaning:** dish soap, spray disinfectant, paper towels

**Personal Hygiene:** deodorant, razors, feminine products

**Household:** towels, bedding, pots/pans, silverware

**Other:** plastic grocery bags that we can use to bag produce in (gently used, no holes)

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

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

## Are you searching for...

A deeper relationship with God?
An encounter with Jesus Christ?
A sense of belonging in a Christian community?
A greater fulfillment of your purpose in life?



#### Have you been curious...

What Catholics believe about God, Jesus, Mary, and the Saints?
What Catholics believe is God's plan for human life and happiness?
What makes the Catholic Church different from other Christian churches?
What is the meaning and purpose of the sacraments?

What are the benefits of going to Mass?

How Catholics serve the poor and engage in social justice? Why the church teaches what it does about human life, sexuality and

## Consider living your life as a Catholic

Register for **Inquiry** – a casual meeting format to begin answering questions and curiosities. General topics will be presented to inform and facilitate conversation. Participation does not mean a commitment to become Catholic. Meetings begin after Labor Day on Saturdays, 10 - 11:30 am. Register today. Scan the QR code below.

#### KITCHEN

Continued from p. 12

or unrealized losses in securities and other investments, the community has stepped up to make sure DCCK's work continues. Over the past three years DCCK has seen its primary source of revenue flip from contributions to social enterprise/program revenue. Within that contribution category, however, the share of individual and corporate contributions, as well as local and foundation grants,

has increased.

DCCK is emphasizing that maximizing revenue generation is not the vision of the future, and is still reliant on donations. That said, DCCK does want to be "as self-sufficient as possible" as it scales up its community outreach and programming to further its mission according to its values. According to its website, by 2025, DCCK wants to be serving 25,000 meals per day, create 50 new jobs, triple its capacity, and generate over \$200 million in annual financial impact for the community.



happiness?

### St. Dominic Catholic Church

630 E Street, SW Washington, DC 20024

Tel: (202) 554-7863

Email: office@stdominicchurch.org

Website: www.stdominicchurch.org

## Southwester Community Calendar | July 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.

**TUES 4, 7 P.M. Fourth at the Wharf.** Celebrate the Fourth of July at The Wharf with a free celebration from 5-10pm on District Pier presented by Smirnoff Ice. Enjoy music and spectacular views of the National Park Service fireworks launched from the National Mall. The celebration includes a bar serving Smirnoff Ice Zero Sugar, Guinness Blonde, Ranch Water, Pepsi products and more.

**WED 5, 2 P.M. Tech Help.** Need help navigating a new device, setting up an email account, connecting with friends on social media, or something else techrelated? Drop by Tech Help, a one-hour technology assistance clinic for guidance from library staff. Come prepared with any necessary log-in information and your charged device. Be ready to learn new skills and get comfortable in the digital environment while accomplishing the tech tasks you need done. Southwest Library.

WED 5, 7-9 P.M. Rock the Dock at The Wharf featuring Justin Trawick (Americana). Summer never sounded better! Join us for free concerts on Transit Pier every Wednesday evening starting at 7 P.M. With R&B, Americana, Motown, Jazz, Reggae, and your favorite pop covers, there is something for everyone. Grab a snack and a Pacifico Beer and enjoy live music. Transit Pier.

**THURS 6, 7:00 P.M. Sunset Cinema on the Wharf: Forrest Gump.** All summer long, come to The Wharf for free movies on Transit Pier presented by Pacifico on Thursday evenings. With action movies, romcoms, blockbusters, and classics, there is something for everyone. Grab a snack and a Pacifico Beer and enjoy the show.

FRI 7, 7 P.M. Friday Night Dancing: Country Line Dance. We're combining the two best Friday night activities this summer: going dancing and enjoying cocktails al fresco. Join us for free themed dance nights with live music on Transit Pier on the second Friday in June, July, and August. Each night will feature a different style of music and dancing.

**SAT 8, All Day Craft.** Join us in the Children's Room for a seasonal or book-themed craft. Recommended for ages 3-12 and their caregivers. On July 9th, we'll do a bird craft inspired by Mel Fell. Southwest Library.

**SAT 8, 2 P.M. Long Story Short: A Short Story Book Club.** Long story short, we know you love a good story but you just don't have time to read a whole book. Join this bi-monthly book club as we read-a-loud and discuss short stories. We are reading American Classic short stories, all are available to read online. A link to each story is listed below. This program is for adults. July 8th: A Shameful Affair by Kate Chopin. Southwest Library Conference Room 1.

SAT 8, 7 P.M. Faith & Film Zoom presentation of "Big George Foreman." Release: 2023 Rating: PG:13 Genre: Biographical Drama Runtime: 2hrs 9min Big George Foreman: The Miraculous Story of the Once and Future Heavyweight Champion of the World is a 2023 American biographical sports drama film that focuses on the life of world heavyweight boxing champion George Foreman, played by Khris Davis. All Invited! Rev. Brian Hamilton will lead the after-film discussion. Contact the Westminster church office for Zoom link (202-484-7700) wpcdcoffice@gmail.com

**SUN 9, 2 P.M. Sit and Stitch.** Stitchers of all forms and skill levels (including first-timers) bring your own materials and join us to knit, crochet, embroider, cross-stitch, or make however makes your heart sing for the hour. Basic beginner instruction available for the listed crafts available. Adults of all ages welcome. Southwest Library.

WED 12, 2 P.M. Tech Help. Need help navigating a

new device, setting up an email account, connecting with friends on social media, or something else techrelated? Drop by Tech Help, a one-hour technology assistance clinic for guidance from library staff. Come prepared with any necessary log-in information and your charged device. Be ready to learn new skills and get comfortable in the digital environment while accomplishing the tech tasks you need done. Southwest Library.

WED 12, 7-9 P.M. Rock the Dock at The Wharf featuring The Experience Band & Show (Funk). Summer never sounded better! Join us for free concerts on Transit Pier every Wednesday evening starting at 7 P.M. With R&B, Americana, Motown, Jazz, Reggae, and your favorite pop covers, there is something for everyone. Grab a snack and a Pacifico Beer and enjoy live music. Transit Pier.

**FRI 14, 4-10 P.M. Market SW.** Southwest DC's eclectic Friday night market returns with a diverse mix of art, crafts, handmade jewelry, accessories, bath and beauty goods, and vintage and antique furnishings. 4th St SW & M St SW.

MON 17, 5 P.M. Middle Grade Book Club. Join the Southwest Library as we read HOLES by Louis Sachar. This thought-provoking, adventurous Newbery winning book is a must-read! Copies will be available to checkout from the library--or you can bring a copy from home to read. We'll meet in the children's area of 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, 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 3rd Tuesday of every month. So whether you are a well-read fan of Morrison or have never read her work, all are welcome! The June book is Paradise. Southwest Library.

**WED 19, 7-9 P.M. Rock the Dock at The Wharf featuring La Unica (Latin).** Summer never sounded better! Join us for free concerts on Transit Pier every Wednesday evening starting at 7 P.M. With R&B, Americana, Motown, Jazz, Reggae, and your favorite pop covers, there is something for everyone. Grab a snack and a Pacifico Beer and enjoy live music. Transit Pier.

**THURS 20, 7:00 P.M. Sunset Cinema on the Wharf: Bend It Like Beckham.** All summer long, come to The Wharf for free movies on Transit Pier presented by Pacifico on Thursday evenings. With action movies, rom-coms, blockbusters, and classics, there is something for everyone. Grab a snack and a Pacifico Beer and enjoy the show.

SAT 22, 1:15 P.M. Your Family Tree. Learn how to begin your family research project. "Explore the amazing history of you. Answers await everyone—whether professional or hobbyist, expert or novice, genealogist or historian—inside the more than 7,000 available databases. Here, you can unlock the story of you with sources like censuses, vital records, immigration records, family histories, military records, court and legal documents, directories, photos, maps and more."-Ancestry Library Edition. Join a conversation circle afterwards with library customers who enjoy researching family history. Southwest Library.

**SUN 23, 7 P.M. Solemn Vespers.** Solemn Vespers for the 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Vespers is the evening prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours (Divine Office) that is prayed daily by priests, consecrated religious brothers and sisters, and many lay people. Immediately following vespers there will be a recep-

tion in the Parish Meeting Room. St. Dominic Church.

**WED 26, 2 P.M. Tech Help.** Need help navigating a new device, setting up an email account, connecting with friends on social media, or something else techrelated? Drop by Tech Help, a one-hour technology assistance clinic for guidance from library staff. Come prepared with any necessary log-in information and your charged device. Be ready to learn new skills and get comfortable in the digital environment while accomplishing the tech tasks you need done. Southwest Library.

WED 26, 7-9 P.M. Rock the Dock at The Wharf featuring So Fetch (2000s Pop). Summer never sounded better! Join us for free concerts on Transit Pier every Wednesday evening starting at 7 P.M. With R&B, Americana, Motown, Jazz, Reggae, and your favorite pop covers, there is something for everyone. Grab a snack and a Pacifico Beer and enjoy live music. Transit Pier.

**THURS 27, 1 P.M. Coffee & Conversation.** Customers are invited to join a casual conversation with other library customers and individuals from the neighborhood. Coffee and Tea provided. Southwest Neighborhood Library - Large Meeting Room.

**THURS 27, 7:00 P.M. Sunset Cinema on the Wharf: Where the Crawdads Sing.** All summer long, come to The Wharf for free movies on Transit Pier presented by Pacifico onThursday evenings. With action movies, rom-coms, blockbusters, and classics, there is something for everyone. Grab a snack and a Pacifico Beer and enjoy the show.

**FRI 28, 4-10 P.M. Market SW.** Southwest DC's eclectic Friday night market returns with a diverse mix of art, crafts, handmade jewelry, accessories, bath and beauty goods, and vintage and antique furnishings. 4th St SW & M St SW.

#### **WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY**

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

**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,

See "Calendar," page 15

#### **CALENDAR**

Continued from p. 14

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 A.M. St. Dominic Church. www.stdominic-church.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.

**CREATOR'S CORNERS,** Every other Saturdays, All Day. Every other Saturday we'll offer a unique chance to get creative! All supplies will be provided—just bring your imagination! This program is best for children up to 12 and their caregivers.

#### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN PERSON WALK-IN CLIN-

**IC,** Wednesdays, 1-4 P.M. Call DC Volunteers Lawyer Project to make an appointment: 202-425-7573. www.dcvlp.org/clinic/ Westminster Presbyterian Church.

(NEW FOR SUMMER) DROP EVERYTHING AND READ, Mondays, 5-6 P.M. Come enjoy some good old-fashioned reading together! Bring a book, or pick up one of ours, and let's kick back and relax together. We'll meet on the 1st floor patio, weather permitting. All ages welcome. All participants under 9 must be accompanied by a caregiver over 13 at all times. Feel free to partner read, read quietly to yourself, to listen to an audiobook in your headphones. Southwest Library.

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

**FAMILY GAME DAY,** Sundays, All Day. How fast can you beat your sister at Uno? Itching to play Candyland or Jumbo Connect 4? Children and their families are invited to visit the Southwest Library on Sunday afternoons to play a selection of games that will be made available.

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

**FARMERS MARKET SW,** Saturdays 9 A.M. - 1 P.M. 4th St SW & M St SW. Join us at The LotSW to show support for our farmers and food artisans selling local produce, sustainable meat & eggs, fresh baked breads, and hot cuisines from around the world. The market features live music and performances, community organizations, kids' activities, and special giveaways and promotions throughout the season, with support from our sponsors at the Southwest Business Improvement District and Waterfront Station.

**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.

**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 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.

**JOB SEEKERS,** Mondays, 1-3 P.M. Stop by Southwest Library for this drop-in clinic where we answer your questions and provide guidance and assistance to job seekers in their search. Southwest Library Large Conference Room 1.

**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/

**LET'S PLAY SPADES,** Thursdays, 5:30 P.M. SPADES is a trick-taking partnership game where players bid the number of tricks each expects to take. Games are played to 500 points and the team with the highest score wins. Southwest Library.

**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.

**MOVIES AT THE LIBRARY,** Fridays, 1 PM. Adults are invited to enjoy an afternoon movie at the library. Movies to be advertised in branch.

**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/

#### (NEW FOR SUMMER) OUTDOOR EXPLORATIONS,

Thursdays, 4:30 - 5:15 P.M. Participate in weekly activities throughout Discover Summer including bark rubbings, scavenger hunts, etc. We will meet on the benches outside the library and stay in the grassy area outside the library. All participants under 9 must be accompanied by a caregiver over 13 at all times. In case of rain or thunder, we will meet inside the Southwest Library.

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/

**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/

**SEATED YOGA (In Person),** Mondays & Fridays, 11 A.M. - 12 P.M. Low impact stretches and mobility exercises performed under the direction of Pamela Wilson. Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**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

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 SERIES: HOLY COUPLES & MARRIED SAINTS,** Sundays, 9:15 A.M. A series of talks on modern-day married saints, lead by Fr. Kevin Kraft, O.P. Sunday, April 16 through Sunday, August 27, 2023, 9:15 A.M. to 10:15 A.M. in the Parish Meeting Room at St. Dominic Church.

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/

**SW ACTION MEETING,** Sundays, 1:30 P.M. 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.

**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 Kadampa Meditation Center www.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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 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.



Formally Sunday Suppers, we're still focused on connecting all neighbors through delicious foods and fun activities while broadening times to include all community members. See you there!

Produced bγ: THE ART ISLAND



