serving the waterfront communities of southwest and navy yard

JUNE 2024 12,000 PAPERS PRINTED THIS MONTH

Children's Chorus of Washington Opens New Campus in Southwest DC

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

hildren's Chorus of Washington (CCW), one of the premier children's choirs in the United States, is opening a new campus at St. Matthew Lutheran Church (222 M Street SW) in September 2024.

The chorus, which regularly works with some of DC's most prestigious performing ensembles, has been providing outstanding music education to young people for almost 30 years.

"Chorus is a phenomenal experience for a young person," said Executive Director Robbie Jacobs. "As well as building a lifelong love of music and singing, our choristers grow in confidence, develop critical thinking skills, and learn how to collaborate with oth-

See "Chorus," page 5



The Children's Chorus of Washington will expand to Southwest DC in fall 2024.

Waterfront Village "Expressions of a Lifetime" Exhibit Celebrates Artists of Southwest and Navy Yard

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

n June 7, Waterfront Village will host an evening of art and community at the "Expressions of a Lifetime" art exhibit, showcasing the talents of artists age 60 and older from the Southwest and Navy Yard neighborhoods. The event will take place from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 222 M Street

"At Waterfront Village, we recognize that creativity has no age limit," said Pam Troutman, executive director of Waterfront Village. "Through 'Expressions of a Lifetime,' we celebrate the wisdom, passion, and talent of local older artists who continue to inspire us all."

The exhibit will include a range of



An abstract work by Tom Walsh, 86, one of the artists exhibiting their work at Waterfront Village.

artwork, including sculpture, mosaic work, and paintings in acrylic and watercolor.

The local artists showing their work include Tom Walsh, 86, of Southwest DC. As a graphic designer, Walsh studied art in college but didn't start painting until he was in his 60s. Since then, he has exhibited at galleries in Philadelphia and Washington, most recently at the Martha Spak Gallery at the Wharf and the Hill Center in Capitol Hill. Walsh recently donated a painting that hangs in Whitman Walker's Max Robinson Center in Anacostia.

"Seniors have all this energy and years of experience expressed in their artwork," Walsh said. "It is something to be admired, not

See "Exhibit," page 2



DC CENTRAL KITCHEN SERVES 50 MILLIONTH MEAL

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KIDS CORNER

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DUCK POND PARTY USHERS IN SUMMER

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ARENA STAGE **ANNOUNCES NEW SEASON**

Page 11



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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DC Central Kitchen Serves 50 Millionth Meal

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

n early May, DC Central Kitchen marked a milestone, serving 50 million meals over its 35-year history. Since moving into its new facility, the Klein Center for Jobs and Justice in Southwest, last spring, DC Central Kitchen has nearly doubled its daily meal production, and now delivers 16,500 meals each day to community partners and schools throughout the city.

"We're never going to feed our way out of hunger. It's a harsh reality that we knew on day one in 1989 and remains evident to this day," CEO Michael Curtin, Jr. said in a press release. "Food, when used as a tool to create pathways to opportunity and living wage jobs, not only strengthens bodies, but it empowers minds and builds communities. Behind every one of the 50 million meals we have served is a training and career opportunity that empowered someone to change their life while nourishing our city."

The social enterprise nonprofit works with more than 80 community

d.C. central kitchen

partners, including shelters, recovery centers, and senior facilities, to provide prepared meals that allow those organizations to focus on core programming and other resources for their clients. Additionally, DC Central Kitchen prepares scratch-cooked breakfasts, lunches, and suppers at 30 schools citywide where many students rely on school meals.

DC Central Kitchen now employs more than 300 individuals, nearly half

of whom are graduates of the organization's Culinary Job Training program for those overcoming homelessness, incarceration, trauma, and food insecurity. Volunteers also played a large role in reaching the mile-

stone, as DC Central Kitchen has welcomed 15,000 volunteers at its new facility since restarting the volunteer program in April 2023, following the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We are truly grateful for the 15,000 volunteers who have lent a hand at our new home and the more than 250,000 volunteers who have made our work possible over the past 35 years. Their efforts have been critical to the 50 million meals we have served since 1989," Curtin said. "Just as important, each of those generous individuals has worked side by side with students and graduates of our Culinary Job Training program. Our city can solve any challenge when we work together, and these milestones are a powerful reminder about the importance of continuing to step up and focus on long-term solutions."

Southwester

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The Southwester

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To contact the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly or *The Southwester*, call (202) 320-4414.



Courtesy of Southwester Staff

Good Company Opens

In time for Memorial Day weekend, Good Company Doughnuts & Cafe opened its doors on the ground floor of The Westerly at 1000 4th Street SW, offering Southwest neighbors a variety of coffee drinks, doughnuts, sandwiches and breakfast and dinner items. Hours are 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Sunday and Monday and 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday through Saturday. https://gocodough.com/menu/Telephone: (202) 479-1129.

EXHIBIT

Continued from p. 1

ignored."

The Waterfront Village exhibit will also feature a silent auction. Tickets

are available for \$25 and can be purchased at www.dcwaterfrontvillage. org. Proceeds support Waterfront Village's mission to help older adults in Southwest and Navy Yard stay in their own homes as they age, with strong community support.

The art will remain on display for an open house on Saturday, June 8, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday's event is free and open to the public, with donations gratefully accepted to support Waterfront Village.





SAT. JUN. 1 | 7:30PM - VS. TORONTO FC



WED. JUN. 19 | 7:30PM - VS. ATLANTA UNITED FC



SAT. JUN. 22 | 7:30PM - VS. HOUSTON DYNAMO FC

SCAN FOR TICKETS →



Washington Spirit Continue Strong Run at Audi Field

BY FREDO VASQUEZ

espite a weekend soaked in rain, the clouds parted just in time for an electrifying matchup between the Washington Spirit and Angel City FC at Audi Field on May 18.

In a first half filled with action, it was Trinity Rodman who opened the score at the ninth minute. However, an own goal by Spirit defender Annaig Butel at the 20th minute gave the visitors a chance to get into the game. Three minutes later, Sydney Leroux gave Angel City the lead. But the Spirit refused

to back down. Rodman scored a second goal in the 30th minute, and Casey Krueger added a third four minutes later.

But the best goal was saved for last. Croix Bethoune and Ouleymata Sarr combined to cap 36 minutes of intense soccer and reward the 13,342 loyal fans who congregated in Buzzard Point. Bethoune attracted four Angel City defenders only to provide a clinical

assist to Sarr, who tipped the ball above Angel City's goalie, Dijana Haracic, to put the fans on their feet. Sadly, Sarr was forced to leave the field right before halftime after suffering an injury.

With a two-goal advantage, the Spirit controlled the pace of the second half. The visiting team took control of the ball but a disciplined Spirit side made their possession irrelevant. The visitors would finish the game with 68

Courtesy of Fredo Vasquez

On a damp May night at Audi Field, the Washington Spirit held off Angel City

percent possession but only three shots on target.

The victory sees the Spirit maintaining their strong position in the league standings, remaining in second place, just one point behind Kansas City.

Continuing a burgeoning tradition, Spirit players ended the match by approaching the supporter's section to thank their fans and sign autographs for the young supporters who patiently waited for their heroes' atten-

> June brings two more home matches, with the Spirit North Carolina



Audi Field to Add Third Professional Soccer Team with Launch of New Soccer League

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

ashington will gain a second professional women's soccer team this year, with the new team scheduled to host home matches at Buzzard Point's Audi Field, along with Major League Soccer's D.C. United and the National Women's Soccer League's Washington Spirit.

The DC Power Football Club (FC) will be one of eight inaugural teams in the United Soccer League's (USL) Super League, which is scheduled to kick off its first season in August 2024. Former D.C. United standout Frédéric Brillant was announced as Power FC's first head coach in club history, and local business leader Jordan Stuart will serve as the first club

"Power FC's identity is deeply rooted in the dynamic spirit and resilience of its hometown, Washington, DC," Stuart said in a press release. "As our nation's center of power, Washington, DC bears a unique responsibility. The responsibility to lead. To effect change. To inspire. This energy drives Power Football Club."

Brillant stepped into coaching soccer after retiring from his playing career, previously serving as an assistant coach for D.C. United, including a brief stint as Interim Head Coach. He has spent the past season as an assistant coach with the Utah Royals in the National Women's Soccer League.

The inaugural Super League season will run through Spring 2025, inclusive of a Winter Break hiatus. The home opener and specific game day schedule are forthcoming, but will align with the global soccer calendar.

CHORUS

Continued from p. 1

ers to achieve a common goal."

The new Southwest Chorus is open to young people in grades 2 to 5, and takes place on Wednesday evenings, after school. The chorus is led by Para Perry, currently the music educator for Amidon Bowen Elementary School, and CCW's Chief Program Officer and Associate Artistic Director, Christen Hernandez.

Many choristers who join CCW at a young age stay with the chorus for their entire childhood.

Nicole Talledo, a member of CCW's student council, is about to graduate from high school, and has been a cho-

rister since she was eight years old. Reflecting on her CCW experience, she said: "I don't think I could live in a world where I wasn't part of such a supportive community. The friendships I've made have stuck with me as I've moved along my musical journey. CCW shaped me into the person that I am today, and I couldn't be more grateful."

Thanks to generous contributions from a range of supporters, substantial financial aid is available to cover the cost of tuition for families that need it. To find out more about Children's Chorus of Washington, please visit www.childrenschorusdc.org/auditions.



Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid Seeks Virtual Tutors

BY KATRINA AVILA

nsuring the safety and wellbeing of our community has remained a central focus for Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid (SYC/W6MA) since its inception. They consistently dedicate themselves to providing essential resources such as food, cleaning supplies, household items, and clothing to our neighbors. The partnership between Christ United Methodist Church and the Southwest Pod of SYC/W6MA, along with grassroots organizations representing Black and Brown communities, has significantly contributed to this effort. The Southwest Pod of SYC/W6MA expresses deep grati-



tude for the continuous generosity and assistance they receive, which are instrumental in supporting community members facing hardship. This collaborative endeavor underscores the strength of community solidarity and mutual support.

Interested in contributing? Explore the different ways to get involved with Serve Your City/ Ward 6 Mutual Aid:

Virtual Tutors Needed: SYC/W6MA's "Free School for Unlimited Youth" program provides FREE virtual tutoring to Black and Brown K-12 students across Washington, DC. We are constantly seeking passionate vol-

unteer members to join our team! We welcome college students, graduate students, and professionals who are committed to making a difference in any subject. If you're interested in becoming a virtual tutor, please visit bit.ly/sycvolunteertutor or contact us at youthenrichment@serveyourcity-dc.org for more details.

SYC/W6MA's Southwest Pod Spring & Summer Hours: SYC/ W6MA's Southwest Pod accepts donations on Wednesdays from 3 pm to 5 pm and Saturdays from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.. Those in the community facing hardship are welcome to visit once a month for assistance, including food, hygiene products, cleaning supplies, and access to the Clothing Closet. You can find the Southwest Pod at Christ United Methodist Church, located at 900 4th Street SW. Access is through the courtyard gate at the rear of the building on the side street off Wesley Place SW. You'll also find SYC/W6MA's table at the Southwest Farmers Market every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., weather permitting. Fresh produce, meat, and dairy product donations are welcomed to ensure a nutritious food selection. Please drop by to say hello and contribute. Additionally, Christ United Methodist Church's 5000 Food Pantry will continue serving food and supplies on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Support SYC/W6MA's Southwest Pod! We are in need of donations such as:

Non-perishable foods like canned tuna, canned chicken, pasta, pasta sauce, soup, canned fruit, boxed milk, peanut butter, jelly, cooking oil, condiments, hot and cold cereal, Ensure, tea, coffee.

Toiletries including toothpaste, toothbrushes, bar soap, deodorant, feminine products, and Depends.

Monetary Donations: Contribute online at bit.ly/sycw6ma-donate. Your contributions enable us to secure food from the Capital Area Food Bank, effectively tripling the impact compared to purchasing from a store.

Want to Learn More? For further details, feel free to reach out to us at: swmutualaid@serveyourcitydc.org.



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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\$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
\$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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DOG O dTIKTOK X

Cordial Moves Locations, **Expands Offerings**

The craft wine, beer and spirits retailer stays on Wharf but moves to larger space

BY MIKE GOODMAN

\intercal ordial Craft Wine, Beer and Spirits first opened on The Wharf in October 2017, and current owner Chuck Waldmann took over in June 2019. Five years later, the shop has become a mainstay for residents, office workers and tourists alike, and recently moved just a few hundred feet to an expanded space at 70 District Square, SW - the spot of the former Politics & Prose (which also stayed at The Wharf but moved to an even bigger space at 610 Water Street, on the ground floor of the Atlantic building).

The Southwester interviewed Waldmann, the President, Owner "and chief merrymaker" of Cordial, and asked about the move, the business, and what brought him to owning a store in SW DC.

Tell us a little about Cordial. What is unique about the store?

Cordial provides a curated yet diverse selection of smaller producer wine and spirits and a broad selection of craft beers from around the DMV. I'm a small businessman and I like to support other small businesses, so most of our wines and spirits are from independent, often family-run producers that might not have the marketing budget of larger brands, so their focus is putting their money in the bottle and making the best product they can, and selling it at a fair price. Cordial is a great place for these producers to have their products, because we take the time to learn about our selection, chat with our customers and help them find the best wine or spirit for them.

The overarching theme of the shop is "terroir," a French concept that refers



New location of Cordial Craft Wine, Beer and Spirits

Courtesy of Cordial

to the entire environment that a wine is created in - the soil, the weather, the traditions, everything that makes it what it is. For me, that meant going back to my roots in my career, when I worked with a lot of smaller wineries and what drove my desire to have my own shop. Soon, we'll have new décor from my husband's family in the Philippines, bringing him into the shop as well. This is a family venture, like many of the producers we represent.

You moved just a few hundred feet away, earlier this year. Why the move?

We had been thinking about moving to a larger location for awhile because we were limited in what we could feasibly carry in the old shop on Sutton Sq. When Politics and Prose moved, I approached Wharf management about the potential of relocating. Bob Rubenkonig and I sat down and discussed the possibilities of our move, and we decided to make the leap into a much larger space that also affords us better storage and public exposure on one of the main gathering places at the Wharf. The new space allowed us to dramatically expand our selection, add a second cooler and a permanent tasting table.

How's it going so far at the new location?

Relocations are always challenging, with customers wondering when we're going to reopen, where the new shop is, and eventually getting the customers to come find you. We are lucky that Southwest is a thriving, active neighborhood, and we wanted to create a wine and spirits shop that served the southwest DC community as well as the tourists and visitors that come to the Wharf. We are seeing more and more of our regular customers as well as new ones coming in.

Tell us a bit about vourself. What's your professional background, and what brought you to deciding to open up at The Wharf?

I got into wine working in restaurants to help pay for college, then went back to it for several years - that's what happens when you major in history and theology. After restaurant work, I went to work for a small retailer, then got into corporate wine buying with some very large national retailers. One thing that never changed was my love of smaller producers and their products - wines that tasted like someone cared about making them rather than just creating a big brand that seemed to taste a lot like everything else on the

After I left a job in the corporate world, I was looking for my next chapter and found out that Cordial was potentially up for sale. We made the agreement and I haven't looked back. The Wharf and the surrounding Southwest community is a wonderful place to do business, with a diverse clientele of residents, the business and office community and the tourists and day visitors that come to enjoy the waterfront area. At Cordial, we really feel that we are part of the neighborhood.

Anything else our readers should know about Cordial?

We have a full slate of tastings coming up this spring and summer! You can find out about our weekly tastings at our Instagram @cordialwharf or on Facebook.

We are also launching a frequent shopper program in the summer, look for more details on that soon! We are open noon to 9PM Monday through Saturday, and noon to 7PM on Sunday.

Arena Stage Brings Home 7 Helen Hayes Awards

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

he annual presentation of the Helen Hayes Awards, celebrating outstanding achievements by professional theaters and theater-makers across the DC region, took place at The Anthem in late May.

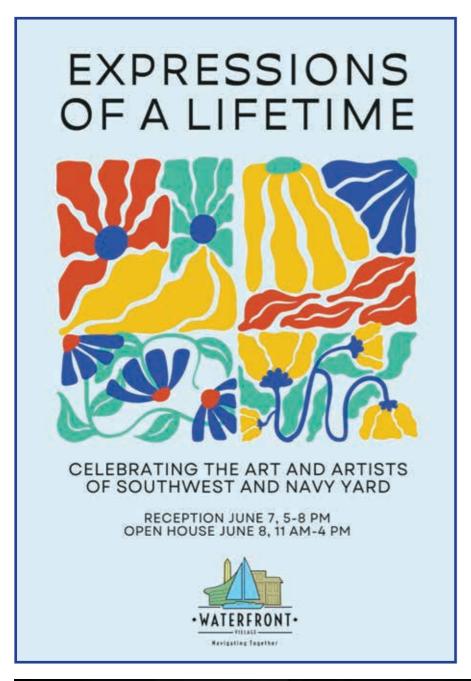
With a broad range of local creators and artists in attendance, Southwest's Arena Stage racked up seven awards for their work in 2023, earning recognition among the 44



musicals, 107 plays, and 36 world • For Cambodian Rock Band, Outpremieres eligible for award consideration.

2024 Helen Hayes Award Winners from Arena Stage:

- For Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches, Outstanding Ensemble in a Play and Outstanding Supporting Performer in a Play (Justin Weaks)
- For Exclusion, Charles MacArthur Award for Outstanding New Play or Musical (Kenneth Lin)
- standing Lead Performer in a Play (Joe Ngo)
- For Swept Away, Outstanding Musical Direction, (Brian Usifer, Chris Miller, & Will Van Dyke) Outstanding Lighting Design (Kevin Adams) and Outstanding Sound Design (John Shivers).



Sculpture, painting, photography, textie art, and more

Featuring artists 60 years and older

June 7, 5pm-8pm June 8, 11am-4pm

Join us at St. Matthew Church 222 M Street, SW.

Click the QR code below to learn more!

Proceeds from this event support Waterfront Village dcwaterfrontvillage.org







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?





4. _______ 5. _____

Answers from May 2024 issue

Differences: The cloud in the top left corner is different in each picture; the blue butterfly is in a different place in each picture; the heart is different in the middle of the mom and daughter on the left of the pictures; the flowers are different in the middle of the mom and daughter in the center of each picture; there are hearts in the middle of the mom and daughter on the right side in the right picture; in the right picture, a girl's hat is different.

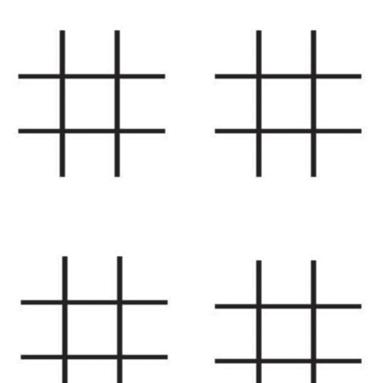
WORD SEARCH: SUMMER BREAK!

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OUTSIDE FUN
BEACH RELAX
CAMPS
PLAY FREE

NO SCHOOL

READ



TIC TAC TOE

Southwest Duck Pond Party Ushers in Summer

The Southwest BID hosted a festival to mark the seasonal return of the ducks to the Southwest Duck Pond. After being postponed one week due to weather, the party brought out neighbors to enjoy free food, live music, and games. Artist Trap Bob's duck-themed artwork adorned the annual swag giveaways, from tote bags to stickers.



Arena Stage Announces New Season, First Lineup Under New Artistic Director

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

rena Stage announced the ten shows that will comprise its 2024-2025 season, the first led by Artistic Director Hana S. Sharif. The company's 74th season will feature a mix of new works and reimagined classics, including six world-premiere productions and collaborations with some of the nation's leading theatermakers.

"This season is a collection of ten dynamic American stories from our nation's most exciting and provocative artistic voices," Sharif said in a press release. "Arena Stage has a long and rich history of launching groundbreaking new plays into the world and I am honored to dream boldly as we lay the foundation for a future as limitless as our imaginations."

The shows scheduled for the upcoming season include:

Manhattan Theatre Club's production of JAJA'S AFRICAN HAIR BRAIDING By Jocelyn Bioh

Directed by Whitney White September 6 – October 6, 2024

Direct from Broadway, where it earned five Tony Nominations, including 'Best Play,' this comedic gem unravels the complexities of cultural identity, assimilation, and the pursuit of the American Dream within the African immigrant community in

The World-Premiere Production of THE OTHER AMERICANS By John Leguizamo **Directed by Ruben Santiago-Hudson** October 18 – November 24, 2024

This world-premiere drama will star Emmy Award-winning actor, comedian, and producer John Leguizamo. In Queens, a Colombian American laundromat owner grapples with a failing business and buried secrets, until his son returns from a wellness facility after a traumatic incident and his world unravels.

The World-Premiere Production of DATA By Matthew Libby **Directed by Tyne Rafaeli** October 31 – December 15, 2024

A fast-paced techno-thriller unveiling dark secrets within Silicon Valley, this intriguingly suspenseful and relevant new play follows a brilliant entrylevel programmer at a data-mining firm. An internal transfer reveals the true nature of his company's highly controversial and secretive work, sparking a crisis of conscience.

The World-Premiere Production of DEATH ON THE NILE By Agatha Christie Adapted for the Stage by Ken Ludwig **Directed by Hana S. Sharif** November 22 - December 29, 2024

Sharif's DC directorial debut is a thrilling adaptation of Agatha Christie's Death on the Nile. Hercule Poirot becomes entangled in a web of deceit and desire aboard a cruise ship on the Nile River, and when a murder takes place, Poirot springs into action to unmask a killer.

Limited Holiday Experience STEP AFRIKA!'S MAGICAL **MUSICAL HOLIDAY STEP SHOW** December 13 - 22, 2024

Step back into the holiday spirit with the joyful return of Step Afrika!'s Magical Musical Holiday Step Show, where the rich tradition of African American stepping blends with the magic of the season. DJ Nutcracker and his Arctic friends amplify the festive atmosphere.

TO BE ANNOUNCED NEW MUSICAL **January 31 – March 16, 2025**

THE AGE OF INNOCENCE **By Edith Wharton** Adapted for the Stage by Karen Zacarías **Directed by Hana S. Sharif** February 28 - March 30, 2025

Against the lavish backdrop of

See "Arena Stage," page 13



Young Readers

Survey Says

BY KITTY FELDE

Libraries are gearing up for summer reading programs and teachers are handing out summer reading assignments. Now, it's up to you to make sure that reading gets done.

As you know, it can be a challenge getting your child to actually pick up a book when the weather is perfect and the outdoors beckons. But parents are up to the task.

A new survey reports that the vast majority of parents - 82% - are embracing summer reading this year and say they plan to join their child in their reading journey.

The survey comes from ThriftBooks, the web-based seller of used books. The company commissioned a national marketing company to query two thousand parents across the country with kids between the ages of eight and seventeen and asked them about reading.

SUMMER READING

The survey found that teachers assign on average three books to be completed over the summer. The most commonly assigned titles are also kid



favorites:

- Diary of a Wimpy Kid (36%)
- Harry Potter (30%)
- Charlotte's Web (28%)
- A Series of Unfortunate Events (25%)
- The Chronicles of Narnia (22%)
- Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (21%).

When the survey asked kids what genres they liked to read, more than half said books with lots of action and adventure. Mysteries or fantasy books were the choice of about half the kids surveyed, and about 40% said they liked

scary stories.

If you're looking for book suggestions for summer reading, check out our Books We Love page on the Book Club for Kids podcast website. There are hundreds of kid-recommended titles listed.

But back to the task of getting kids to pick up a book.

MAKE IT A HABIT FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

A reading habit - especially during the summer months away from the classroom - is created at home, with parents modeling. In other words, if you're seen regularly picking up a book, children are more likely to follow your example. In the survey, kids reported that moms are most likely to be observed reading - 63% of moms.

Dads aren't keeping up. The survey says just 20% of kids ever see their father reading. Dads, it's up to you to pick up the slack.

Kitty Felde is host of the award-winning Book Club for Kids podcast. She also writes the Fina Mendoza Mysteries series, designed to introduce civics to kids.



WHO ARE WE

Children's Chorus of Washington

provides high-quality singing education to young people from all across DC. Now in our 28th year, we are excited to be opening a new chorus from grades 2 - 5 in Southwest DC, starting in September 2024.

Our singers have the opportunity to build musical skill, grow in confidence, and perform on some of DC's most prestigious stages.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Our weekly sessions will take place after school (September - May) on Wednesday afternoons at **St. Matthew Lutheran Church** (222 M St SW).

Singers will be taught songs from a diverse range of cultural traditions, and prepared for exciting performances.

Singers in Grades 2-3 are invited to join our **Training Ensemble**, and singers in Grades 3-5 are invited to audition for our **Treble Charus**

GET INVOLVED



Scan the QR code for information about our programs, or visit us at: **childrenschorusdc.org**

Tuition assistance is available. No singer is turned away from CCW's programs for financial reasons. Contact us at

ccw@childrenschorusdc.org for more information!

The Southwester June 2024 Page 13

ARENA STAGE

Continued from p. 11

1870s New York, Edith Wharton's timeless masterpiece The Age of Innocence offers a searing critique of high society's suffocating norms and a riveting tale of forbidden desires.

The World-Premiere Production of FAKE IT UNTIL YOU MAKE IT By Larissa FastHorse **Directed by Michael John Garcés** April 3 - May 4, 2025

This uproarious comedy satirizes the non-profit sector with the story of Wynona, the Native American proprietor of N.O.B.U.S.H., and River, her white counterpart at Indigenous Nations Soaring. Their escalating rivalry ensnares colleagues and bystanders, highlighting the absurdities of ambition and authenticity.

The World-Premiere Production of UNTITLED TARELL ALVIN McCRANEY PLAY By Tarell Alvin McCraney May 16 – June 15, 2025

A new play about queer love and

forest magic from the Oscar-winning screenwriter of Moonlight features a couple facing a milestone anniversary and fundamental questions about their relationship. With a little support and a lot of confusion from family, friends, and a stranger in the dark, the question remains: will they find their way together or will they let fear and a secret lead them asunder?

The World-Premiere Production of **A WRINKLE IN TIME Book by Lauren Yee Music and Lyrics by Heather Christian** Based on the Novel Written by Madeleine L'Engle **Directed by Lee Sunday Evans** June 12 – July 20, 2025

A world-premiere musical adapts the classic young adult novel, featuring the epic quest of young Meg Murray, who must search for her missing father across time and space, energizing spirits with an exploration of boundless imagination, love, camaraderie and unwavering determination.



Founded in 1964, the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA) is the local volunteer civic organization in Near Southwest Washington, DC (zip code 20024). SWNA produces The Southwester, a monthly news publication.

SWNA has a long tradition of holding community meetings

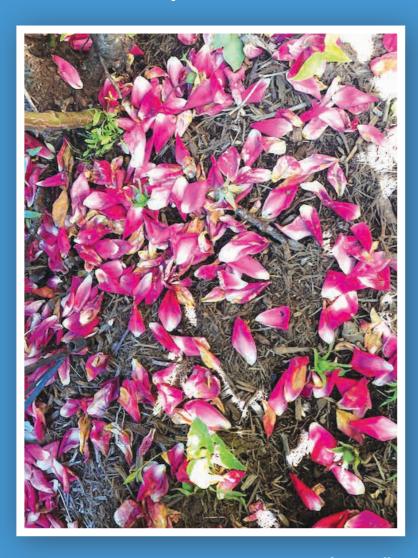
The meeting on June 24th will address public safety in Southwest and will be at 7 PM at Arena Stage. Watch SWNA.ORG for more information.

SWNA also has issue focused task forces. For example,

- The Education and Scholarship task force has been in place for 50 years. Since inception, 632 scholarships totaling more than \$660,000 have been awarded to 277 neighborhood youth.
- This year, SW Strong! the SWNA emergency preparedness task force will focus on community outreach at the SW Farmers' Market and preparedness literature distribution through the SW community. The next talk, (TBD) will focus on pandemic preparedness planning in the city (yes, it could happen again)
- The Youth Activities Task Force nurtures young people 5 25. To learn about its impactful work, please visit https://swna.org/swna/task-forces/ youth-activities/.
- SWNA's History Task Force Subcommittee on Black History works to identify, raise awareness, and educate about the accomplishments and achievements of prominent and notable Blacks and African Americans in our community.

To learn more and get involved visit www.SWNA.org

Photo of the Month



Courtesy of Irene Allen Spring flower petals shower the ground in Southwest.

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



FRIENDS OF SOUTHWEST DC

Over 25 years of helping Southwest!

Did you miss our spring fundraiser?
It's not too late to help a neighbor!

We need funds for scholarships, summer programs, food programs, senior programs, and more.

Please donate and help make SW a better place!

Friends of Southwest DC
P.O. Box 44434, Washington DC 20026
Or donate at FriendsoffSWDC org



P.O. Box 44434, Washington DC 20026
Or donate at FriendsofSWDC.org

We welcome grant applications from organizations working in Southwest.

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.

Southwester Community Calendar | June 2024

Please check the web references or telephone numbers in the listings for details

SAT 1, 2:00 - 3:00 P.M. Natural Soap Making - A Demo with Lyn. A soap making demonstration using natural ingredients. Southwest Neighborhood Library - *Large Meeting Room (20-75 Person Capacity)*. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

SUN 2, 10:30 A.M., Mass. Corpus Christie Procession around the block and the Parish Picnic. **St. Dominic Church,** 501 6th Street, SW (Church), (202) 554-7863.

MON 3, 10:30-11:30 A.M., FAMILY STORYTIME, These 30-40 minute story times are designed to be enjoyed by all ages. Promoting early literacy skills through books, songs, rhymes, and movement. If you would like to visit with a school, childcare, or camp group, please call ahead to make arrangements. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

MON 3, 7:00 P.M. ANC 6D Admin Meeting. Contact the office at 6d@anc.dc.gov for viewing access to the meeting via Zoom

TUES 4, 10:00 A.M.-10:45 A.M. BABY ARTSPLAY™ - Learn and Explore with Teaching Artist Anne Sidney. Join a Wolf Trap Teaching Artist and a librarian as they share music, drama, movement, and imaginative play for children under 3. Register. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

TUES 4, 11:00 A.M. -8:30 P.M. OFFERING OUR FAITH: Turning the Wheel of Dharma Day & Celebrating Venerable Geshe Kelsang Gyatso Rinphoche. Kadampa Meditation Center DC. 1200 Canal St, SW

TUES 4, 7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. Navigating the DCPS Special Education Process: A Virtual Session for Parents & Caregivers. Join us for an overview of the process as well as tips for preparing for meetings, becoming an advocate for your child, creating a strong support system, and accessing resources. Register: tinyurl.com/64navsp. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

FRI 7, 5:00 P.M. -8:00 P.M. WATERFRONT VILLAGE ART EXHIBIT & SILENT AUCTION, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 222 M. Street, SW. An evening of art and community to celebrate the creativity of older adults from Southwest and Navy Yard. Tickets \$25. Proceeds benefit Waterfront Village. www.dcwaterfrontvillage.org

FRI 7, 7:00 P.M-8:15 P.M. FRIDAY NIGHT LEC-TURE: Freedom From Fear: Overcoming Anxiety Kadampa Meditation Center DC. 1200 Canal St, SW

FRI 7, 7:00 P.M. SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS Devotions. St. Dominic Church, 501 6th Street, SW (Church), (202) 554-7863

SAT 8, 10:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M. STILLNESS WITHIN: Beginner's Meditation Retreat, Kadampa Meditation Center DC. 1200 Canal St, SW

SAT 8, 11:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. WATERFRONT VILLAGE ART EXHIBIT OPEN HOUSE, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 222 M. Street SW. An exhibit celebrating the creativity of older adults from Southwest and Navy Yard. Free and open to the public, with donations gratefully accepted to support Waterfront Village. www.dcwaterfrontvillage.org

SAT 8, 1:00-5:00 P.M. KNOW YOUR POWER. Kick-off 2024 Know your Power season with a celebration of arts and activism. For teens 13-19. Register Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org\

SAT 8, 7:00 P.M, FAITH & FILM, monthly Zoom presentations every 2nd Saturday. Join the Faith and Film Club to view and discuss timely and, thought-provoking films. Club members will receive film titles, summaries, and zoom link: Contact the Westminster church office at: wpcdcoffice@gmail.com All invited.

SUN 9, 11:00 A.M. GAY PRIDE CHURCH SERVICE. Join us for a time of celebration and solidarity. Hear testimonies, meditations and inspirational music. All invited!

Westminster church office at:wpcdcoffice@gmail.com

MON 10, 3:00-4:00 P.M. STEM LAB PRESENTS: Explore The World Through A Microscope. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. We will explore different sizes and shapes by adventuring through the world of a MICROSCOPE for this fun 1 hour event. Southwest Library.

MON 10, 7:00 P.M. ANC 6D BUSINESS MEETING. If there is a concern you'd like to raise, please submit a 3-minute maximum transcript of your community concern to 6d@anc.dc.gov at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. www.anc6d.org/virtual-meetings/

TUES 11, 5:30 -7:30 P.M. GAME ON! For Adults and Seniors. Play CLASSIC board games, checkers, uno, dominos, backgammon, and scrabble for this fun 2-hour program event. Adults. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

WED 12, 3:30-4:30 P.M. KIDS & TWEENS LEGO CLUB. Join us for a fun 1hr activity building LEGOS on the Second Floor in the SW Library's STEM Lab. For kids and tweens ages from 6 thru 12. Kids under 9 must be accompanied by a caregiver. www.dclibrary.org

THURS 13, 1:00-3:00 P.M. SUMMER CAMP CRAFTS-FOR ADULTS, Make it and Take it Crafts. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

THURS 13, 1:00 - 3:00 P.M. COFFEE & CONVERSATION.Customers are invited to join a casual conversation with other library customers and individuals from the neighborhood. Coffee provided. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

THURS 13, 1:15-2:15 P.M. BABY LAPTIME, These 20-30 minute story times are specially designed for infants until they begin walking along with their grown ups! Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

THURS 13, 5:30-7:30 P.M. LET'S PLAY SPADES. SPADES is a trick-taking partnership game where players bid on the number of tricks each expects to take. Games are played to 500 points and the team with the highest score wins. Seniors, Adults, 13-19 Years (Teens) Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

SAT 15, 12noon-3:00 P.M. JUNETEENTH KICK-OFF CELEBRATION! Community partnership activity at Carron Baptist Church, 1354 First Street, SW. A celebration of History, Heritage, and Hope! Join us for music, dance, food, games, and giveaways. Free to the Public. Westminster church office at: wpcdcoffice@gmail.com

SUN 16, 1-2:00 P.M. SIT & STITCH. Stitchers of all kinds and skill levels, join us for an hour of stitching and community at the Southwest Neighborhood Library! Basic instruction for beginners in crochet, knitting, embroidery, and cross-stitch is available. Seniors. Adults, 13-19 Years (Teens). Southwest Neighborhood Library. Register. www.dclibrary.org\

MON 17, 10:30-11:30 A.M., FAMILY STORYTIME, These 30-40 minute story times are designed to be enjoyed by all ages. Promoting early literacy skills through books, songs, rhymes, and movement. If you would like to visit with a school, childcare, or camp group, please call ahead to make arrangements. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

TUES 18, 6:30 - 7:30 P.M. OFF SCRIPT! Come read about the lives of your favorite celebrities in their own words! Seniors, Adults. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www. dclibrary.org

THURS 20, 1:15-2:15 P.M. BABY LAPTIME, These 20-30 minute story times are specially designed for infants until they begin walking along with their grown ups! Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

SUN 23, 7:00 P.M. SOLEM VESPERS in the church followed by a reception in the parish meeting room. **St.**

Dominic Church. 501 6th Street, SW (Church), (202) 554-7863.

MON 24, 3:00-4:00 P.M. STEM LAB PRESENTS: Explore The World Through A Microscope at the Southwest Library. We will explore different sizes and shapes by adventuring through the world of a MICROSCOPE for this fun 1 hour event.

MON 24, 6:30 - 7:30 P.M. BRIEF ENCOUNTERS BOOK CLUB. Join us as we get acquainted with the works of authors you've heard of but want to know better! Adults. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

TUES 25, 5:30-7:30 P.M. GAME ON! For Adults and Seniors. Play CLASSIC board games, checkers, uno, dominos, backgammon, and scrabble for this fun 2-hour program event. Adults. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

WED 26, 3:30 - 4:30 P.M. KIDS & TWEENS LEGO CLUB. Join us for a fun 1hr activity building LEGOS on the Second Floor in the STEM Lab. For kids and tweens ages from 6 thru 12. Kids under 9 must be accompanied by a caregiver. www.dclibrary.org

THURS 27, 1:00 - 3:00 P.M. COFFEE & CONVERSATION. Customers are invited to join a casual conversation with other library customers and individuals from the neighborhood. Coffee provided. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

THURS 27, 5:30 - 7:30 P.M. LET'S PLAY SPADES Seniors, Adults, 13-19 Years (Teens) Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

SUN 30, 1-2:00 P.M. SIT & STITCH. Stitchers of all kinds and skill levels, join us for an hour of stitching and community at Southwest Neighborhood Library! Basic instruction for beginners in crochet, knitting, embroidery, and cross-stitch is available. Seniors. Adults, 13-19 Years (Teens). Register. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

ADULT CHESS CLUB, Thursdays, 6-7 P.M. Chess for Adults, 13-19 (Teens). Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, Mondays-Fridays at Noon (St. Dominic Catholic Church) or Wednesday evenings (St. Augustine's Episcopal Church). Post-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. https://aa-dc.org/meetingshttps://aa-dc.org/meetings/t-g-i-f

BLUES MONDAYS, 6-9 P.M. Various Blues musicians and singers are featured each Monday. \$10 cover and food for sale. Schedule at Westminster Presbyterian Church. https://westminsterdc.org/blue-monday-schedule.

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 - 11:30 A.M., Come explore constructive play with us! Children birth to 5 and their caregivers are invited to a special early literacy play date themed around the building, knocking down,

See "Calendar," page 15

CALENDAR

Continued from p. 14

and building back up again. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org\

SEATED YOGA, Mondays and Fridays 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.

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

FILM DISCUSSION, Tuesdays 4th , 11th 18th 25th 11 A.M.- 1:30 P.M. For those who love being part of a good conversation. Seniors, Adults. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

GODLY PLAY PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN, Sundays 11 A.M - Noon. ages 4-12. Fun sessions including videos and interactive activities about the life and teachings of Jesus. Westminster Presbyterian Church. https://westminsterdc.org/

HYBRID ADULT EDUCATION CLASS Sundays 10-11 A.M. Led by Rev. Dr. Alice Bellis (Howard University) and Jeff Nicoll (author of Strange and Gaudy Fruit: Toxic Theology). Westminster Church. To register, contact: wpcdcoffice@gmail.com. FREE. https://westminsterdc.org/

HYBRID SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE, Sundays, 11 A.M. - Noon. All welcome to share in inspiring worship! Westminster Presbyterian Church. https://westminsterdc.

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

JOB SEEKERS, Mondays, 1-3 P.M. Stop by for this dropin clinic where we answer your questions and provide guidance and assistance to job seekers in their search. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

KADAMPA MEDITATION CENTER, Weekly Drop-In Meditation Classes. Tuesdays: 6 - 6.30 P.M., Thursdays: 7:15 - 8.30 P.M., Sundays: 10 - 11 A.M. 1200 Canal St, SW.

KOMEN TOASTMASTERS. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month, 6:30 - 7:30 P. M. If interested in attending our meeting, please contact us at komentoastmasters8714@gmail.com.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, Wednesdays, 7 8 P.M. Contact Westminster Presbyterian Church for more information at wpcdcoffice@gmail.com.

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/

SUMMER CAMP CRAFTS – FOR ADULTS, 10th, 11th, 12th & 13th, 14th. 1:00-3:00m P.M. Make it and Take it crafts. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.org

SW COMMUNITY WELLNESS WALK, Wednesdays, May 8th and May 22nd. For 60-75 minutes we walk along several different streets and make note of various things that need attention - graffiti, broken lights, damaged sidewalks etc. We submit our findings into the city's 311 system **DC 311-Home**. (This is not a "neighborhood watch" activity.) If interested contact Ben Curran for details up until one day before as to the route to be taken and meeting place details: benimon@hotmail. com or 202-294-7043.

TECH HELP, Mondays, 11:00 A.M. - Noon. Get help with digital devices and accounts for free at the library!

Seniors, Adults. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www. dclibrary.org\

TODDLER SENSORY PLAY TIME, Fridays, 10:30-11:30 A.M. Join us in the Children's Room for sensory playtime! We'll provide the materials, just bring your imagination! For children 6 months to 5 years old. Birth to 5 years old. Southwest Neighborhood Library. www.dclibrary.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/

THE WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB (WSCC) meets at 7 P.M. on the First and Third Wednesdays of every month at Christ United Methodist Church, 300 Eye Street, SW. Visitors are always welcome to take part in our meetings. Ring the church's doorbell at the Eye St. entrance to enter the meeting. https://www.dcstampclub.org/

ZOOM RESISTANCE BIBLE STUDY, Tuesdays, 6:30 P.M. Discuss timely issues on Jesus and Social Justice. For Zoom link, contact Westminster office: wpcdcoffice@ 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.

Education can take you anywhere you want to be. Scholarships are available! APPLY ONLINE Deadline Sunday

For more information, to apply, or to donate www.swnascholarship.org





The SWNA Scholarship Fund was established in 1974 to encourage and assist youth in the Southwest Washington DC, Ward 6, Zip code 20024 neighborhood to pursue a post-secondary education.





Experience Art in a New Way: Underpass "Gallery of Southwest" to Enhance our Cityscape in June, Unveiling in July

We are thrilled to announce the "Gallery of Southwest" is coming to the 4th Street Underpass in SW. This vibrant corridor showcases how every brushstroke tells a story, every color ignites emotion, and every glance inspires awe. This mural is more than just art; it is a testament to our community's spirit, diversity, and boundless imagination.

Each side of the underpass will be transformed over two weeks, during which time the sidewalk will be closed, allowing artists to work. Follow us on social for updates.











