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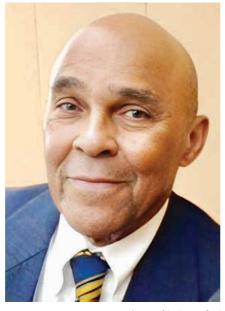
**NOVEMBER 2024** 12,000 PAPERS PRINTED THIS MONTH

# Remembering Community Leader Charles William "C.W." Hargrave

BY JACKIE L. WILLIAMS, PH.D.

'n summer 2024, Southwest lost a beloved neighbor and community L leader in Charles William "C.W." Hargrave, who passed away peacefully at the remarkable age of 95 years old. Along with his wife of 55 years, Lona "Nona" Lear Taylor Hargrave, C.W. called this neighborhood home and made a commitment to serve the beloved and wider communities.

A native of Dandridge, Tennessee, C.W. arrived in the "new" Southwest DC during the early 1960s. He witnessed the transition of the Southwest landscape from a faith-based perspective, in terms of the change in the diversity of the Westminster congregation, as a result of the community and economic development phases of urban renewal.



Courtesy of the Hargrave family

Charles William "C.W." Hargrave.

An elder of Westminster DC, he served under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Jeanne Mackenzie, the first woman appointed as a Pastor in the presbytery. During her tenure, she led the AIDS ministry during the 1980s, creating a welcome table for individuals and communities that were impacted by HIV/AIDS by fostering a diverse and inclusive congregation. With the foresight of C.W., along with other elders who supported Rev. Mackenzie, Westminster became the first church in DC to embrace the LGBTQ community.

C.W.'s dedication to serve the beloved community continued at Westminster DC under the leadership of the current Reverends Brian and Ruth Hamilton, including supporting

See "Hargrave," page 13



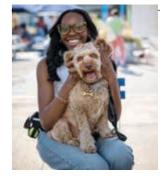
**RENOVATIONS COMING TO** RANDALL REC CENTER

Page 2



WASHINGTON SPIRIT START PLAYOFF RUN

Page 4



THIRD ANNUAL MUTT STRUTT A **SUCCESS** 

Page 7



THEATER ALLI-ANCE ARRIVES IN **SOUTHWEST** 

Page 8

## Student Interview with new Principal Bruce Jackson of Amidon-Bowen

BY SAMSUN COLE (4TH GRADE), ALEXANDRIA JOHNSON (5TH GRADE), LAURYN JOHNSON (4TH GRADE) AND MARGARETHA SANDER (4TH GRADE)

n September, students from Amidon-Bowen interviewed Principal Bruce Jackson for The Southwester. Below is a transcript of their interview with him.

#### What are three words that describe you?

Parent. I have a son that is just over a year old. So one of my favorite things to do is hang with him and he takes up my time in a good way.

Passionate. When I am interested in things I get really into them.

Competitive. I like to win as a team, whether it is rooting for DC Scores or basketball or cross country.

See "Principal," page 6



Courtesy of Kristen Corliss

Alexandria Johnson, Margaretha Sander, Lauryn Johnson, Principal Bruce Jackson,

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#### Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund



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

## Virtual Tutoring Program Seeks Community Volunteers

BY KATRINA AVILA

erve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid (SYC/W6MA) has always centered the safety, well-being, and dignity of our neighbors. Since its inception, SYC/W6MA has worked relentlessly to provide essential resources-including food, cleaning supplies, school materials, digital devices, household goods, and clothing-to those in need. Central to this mission is our partnership with Christ United Methodist Church (CUMC) in Southwest DC, along with other grassroots organizations that uplift and empower Black and Brown communities across the city. The unwavering generosity of donors and volunteers has been vital in sustaining these efforts, ensuring that critical support reaches those facing hardship. These partnerships embody the strength of community solidarity and mutual care.

#### Want to make a difference? Get involved with Serve Your City/ Ward 6 Mutual Aid!

#### **Volunteer as a Virtual Tutor:**

Join SYC/W6MA's Free School for Unlimited Youth program, dedicated to breaking down barriers and providing equitable access to education for Black and Brown K-12 students throughout Washington, DC. Since 2020, our no-cost academic and



enrichment programs have addressed the systemic educational inequities affecting low-income families in our communities.

We offer FREE virtual tutoring and are always looking for passionate volunteers—whether you're a college student, graduate student, or professional—to share your expertise and help students thrive in any subject.

Ready to inspire young minds? Visit bit.ly/sycvolunteertutor or email us at youthenrichment@serveyourcitydc.org for more information!

## Southwest Pod Closure and Ongoing Community Support

On August 28, SYC/W6MA's Southwest Pod at CUMC officially closed, but our dedication to the Southwest community remains as strong as ever. We will continue to provide essential

supplies—such as food, diapers, and feminine and personal hygiene products—to support CUMC and their 5000 Food Ministry, which will carry on food distributions on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 2:00 p.m. (900 4th St SW).

Additionally, our support for the James Creek Resident Council will continue, with monthly deliveries of food, diapers, and feminine hygiene products. We are profoundly grateful for the generosity and collaboration that have sustained our partnership with CUMC and the James Creek Resident Council, highlighting the strength of solidarity and mutual support within the Southwest community.

#### **Support Our Work**

Your financial contributions play a vital role in sustaining our efforts. By donating online at bit.ly/sycw6madonate, you directly strengthen our support for CUMC's 5000 Food Ministry and help tackle food access challenges in Southwest DC. Your generosity allows us to purchase essential food items in bulk, maximizing our impact and extending our reach to those who need it most.

#### Stay Updated on Our Work Across DC

For the latest news on our programs and initiatives, visit serveyour-citydc.org.

## Randall Rec Center Renovation Project Design Shared at Community Meeting

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

n October 8, the DC Department of General Services and DC Department of Parks and Recreation presented an update on the scheduled \$18.5 million renovation of Randall Recreation Center at 820 South Capitol Street SW. Construction is set to begin in fall 2025.

Designers proposed a concept with a series of outdoor rooms, inviting visitors to "educate and gather" under an outdoor canopy, "pause and celebrate" with flexible outdoor seating, and "socialize and play" in a new social hub with seating areas and a sculpture garden, emphasizing the artistic connection to the adjacent Rubell Museum.

The modernization project will include:

- Renovation of rec center interior
- Renovation of plaza
- New pool house
- Pool and pool deck repairs
- Walkway repair
- Trash Enclosure



Courtesy of DC Department of Parks and Recreation

The proposed design for a renovated Randall Recreation Center at South Capitol and I Streets SW.

- Fence and netting repairs to field
- Playground surface repair
- Outdoor pergola
- Resurface existing courts
- Splash pad equipment in pool entry
- 2 new pickleball courts
   Based on community input to date

and feasibility studies, the renovation will not include a 50-meter pool or an expansion of the indoor recreation center. The project is scheduled for substantial completion in Fall 2026/Winter 2027.

# bid **VOTE FOR A NEIGHBOR YOU'RE** THANKFUL FOR



Every neighborhood has that one person—someone who shows up, steps up, and makes a difference. Now, it's your chance to recognize them. Nominate a neighbor who inspires you, and let's celebrate the people shaping our community. Through an art installation, it's our way of saying thank you to those who quietly lead. Scan the QR code to cast your vote. More to come, so follow us on social for updates!



SW









# October's Highs and Lows at Audi Field: Washington Spirit Clinch Playoffs, D.C. United Fall Short

BY FREDO VASQUEZ

s the regular soccer season came to a close in October, Audi Field witnessed a tale of two vastly different outcomes for its resident teams. The Washington Spirit and D.C. United wrapped up their respective seasons, with one team soaring to playoff contention and the other left lamenting what might have been.



Courtesy of Fredo Vasquez

D.C. United forward Christian
Benteke was honored as the top scorer in Major
League Soccer for the 2024 season.

Courtesy of Fredo Vasquez

The Washington Spirit, representing the city in the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL), ended their regular season on a high note. On October 20, the Spirit clinched a

spot in the playoffs with a commanding 2-0 victory over the Chicago Red Stars. An injury-plagued Spirit relied on its rookies Heather Stainbrook and Makenna Morris to score the winning goals. With this victory, the Spirit clinched home-field advantage during the quarter-finals and semi-finals of the NWSL playoffs. The season represented a remarkable achievement for Spirit's coach Jonatan Giráldez, who joined the Spirit mid-year after ending his tenure as the head coach of Barcelona FC's women's team. Now, the Spirit shift their focus to the playoffs, where they'll hope to carry this momentum deep into the postseason.

On the other hand, D.C. United's final game of the season on October 21 against Charlotte FC ended in heartbreak. United only needed a tie to secure a playoff spot in Major League Soccer and end a five-year long playoff drought. Sadly, a 3-0 loss at home dashed their postseason

hopes. While United's attack struggled to find the back of the net, Charlotte FC capitalized on United's defensive lapses. On a positive note, D.C. United forward Christian Benteke was awarded the Golden Boot as he finished the regular season on top of the league's scorer's board with 23 goals, three more than Inter Miami's Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez. Benteke also tied the D.C. United's record for top scorer in a regular season.

With the Spirit looking ahead to playoff glory and D.C. United reflecting on what went wrong, Audi Field remains a hub of passion and energy, making Southwest and Buzzard Point a hot spot for lovers of the beautiful game. All local soccer fans will now rally behind the Spirit as they begin their chase for a second championship on November 10 at 12:30 p.m. at Audi Field. Tickets can be purchased at https://washingtonspirit.com/tickets/.



- **Learn more** about how your local climate is changing and what District government is doing to protect residents from catastrophes like extreme heat and flooding.
- Share your vision for how DC can be more Climate Ready with the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Energy and Environment.
- Meet SW Strong! and other task forces of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, sponsors of this event.

SWNA Southwest Nelphorhood Assembly

**Event:** Climate Ready DC 2.0 Open House

**Date:** Monday, November 18

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (drop in any time)
Location: 1101 Sixth Street SW, the Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater

Find other events and take the Climate Ready DC survey:

engage.dc.gov/climateready











# **Upcoming Film Screening Focuses on Health Disparities**

oin local cancer survivors and patient advocates as they convene Thursday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. for a screening of American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network's (ACS CAN) "In <u>Due Season</u>," a film by Ashley O'Shay, in Washington, DC at Westminster Presbyterian Church located at 400 I St SW, Washington, DC 20024.

The film highlights the urgent need for the remaining 10 states to expand Medicaid by showcasing the experiences of three Black Americans caught in the health insurance coverage gap as well as experts who can speak to the history of racial bias in America's health care system. This bias continues to drive health disparities and lead to dire consequences for those who are shut out of access to even basic health care needs.

Breast cancer survivor and ACS CAN volunteer Thelma D. Jones, Founder, Thelma D. Jones Breast Cancer Fund, has organized the screening to shine a light on how barriers to health care reinforce and compound health disparities. She chose to host the screening in DC's Ward 6 where she has lived as an activist in a community where many of its members are forced to navigate health disparities because of financial barriers to care.

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President Biden, Dawn Porter, David Graff, Donna & Henry Purchase, Dr. Jill Biden

Dawn Porter, daughter of Henry and Donna Purchase of Southwest DC, received the National Medal of Arts from President Biden at the White House in October. She is an award-winning documentary filmmaker whose work has appeared on ESPN, Netflix, HBO, PBS, and Discovery.

## PRINCIPAL

Continued from p. 1

#### How did you decide to come to Amidon?

I worked for DCPS for quite a while. My wife got a job opportunity that brought us to Florida. The plan was always to come back. I used to be a principal in DC, so when I applied there were five schools that needed a principal, and Amidon stuck out to me for a couple of reasons. Everyone that I talked to mentioned how amazing the students and staff were and how close knit everyone was. I had to interview and meet with teachers and families and I got lucky enough to have the community want to have me too.

#### What were you like as a student?

When I was younger, I was very quiet, I was raised by a single mom. She was going to work and my job was to get good grades and go to school. I was an A student with good grades. If I got in trouble it would be bad. That was through sophomore year of high school. Through student government and athletics, I got more vocal and outgoing and gained confidence.

### What events can we look forward to this year? What positive changes are you thinking of making to the Amidon community?

One of my commitments when I came to Amidon was that we are going to continue to do things we loved in the past. If there are things like Field Day, all of those things we are going to keep because they keep Amidon, Amidon. Second, we are going to gather interest from families, students and teachers to guide what we are doing. We have an active choir, DC Scores, basketball, cross country team, Girls on the Run, Techbridge and drumline. We want to plan more field trips. We want to get students into the amazing places that surround our school. There are so many things in our backyard and using those opportunities is great. I want more clubs and sports and keep adding to it. There's DC Scores soccer, track, cheerleading, flag football, Girls on the Run, cross country. If students want a club, we want to be in a spot to do that as well. It really has to be a choice for students. We have had our experiences as adults so now it is your turn.

#### We are concerned about lockdown drills.

I don't think anyone wants to do lockdown drills and I think kids feel it is scary because of what it is. The lockdown drill is the last resort we will get to. We have security guards, there is a fence around our playground. There is also an app on our phone where we can use to get folks here if we need it. We practice because these things could happen and we want everyone to know what to do in those cases.

Your teachers are incredible and will make sure you are safe and cared for the best they humanly can.

#### How are we going to deal with community problems?

There are a lot of different agencies in DC that can help us resolve issues that we have. There are folks in our school and community that are especially interested in helping our school and community as a whole feel safe. We don't always have to call the police to solve our problems. Giving one answer to every problem is not going to fix them. We should ask, "what does this situation need and how can we help?" I think it starts with treating everyone with respect and listening. Building a community where we listen to each other and the problem.



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\$150,000 - \$199,999	\$975				
\$200,000 - \$249,999	\$1,250				
\$250,000 - \$299,999	\$1,500				
\$300,000 - \$349,999	\$1,825				
\$350,000 - \$399,999	\$2,100				
\$400,000 - \$499,999	\$2,525				
\$500,000 - \$649,999	\$3,225				
\$650,000 - \$799,999	\$4,100				
\$800,000 - \$999,999	\$5,000				
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	\$6,000				
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	\$7,000				
\$2,000,000 - \$2,999,999	\$8,000				
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to register for the program and put money in your pocket when you are buying or selling a property. I look forward to working with you during your real estate process.









## **Third Annual Mutt Strutt a Success**

The Southwest DC Community Center hosted its Fall Family Fest and third Annual Mutt Strutt. The event's kickoff was a one mile "strutt" around Southwest. Charlene, the beagle, led the 30 "strutters" on to 4th Street SW, past the Duck Pond and back to the Lot. Live music, food trucks, caricatures and portraits, face painting and pet and family-friendly vendors made the whole day a success! Rural Dog Rescue's pet adoption and the highly anticipated pet costume contest rounded out the day. Thanks to all the vendors, sponsors, participants and pups for making this a great event.

Photos courtesy of Fredo Vasquez



LEFT and BOTTOM RIGHT: Neighbors and their pups showed off their style at the 2024 Mutt Strutt.

RIGHT: The SW DC Community Center Board of Directors.

BELOW: The 2024 Mutt Strutt costume contest was judged by community leaders, including Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen.











A **thank you** to all the sponsors and vendors who made the third annual SWDC Community Center Mutt Strutt and Fall Family Fest a success!



Page 8 The Southwester November 2024



Courtesy of Tony Powell

Actor John Leguizamo as Nelson in "The Other Americans" at Forest Laundromat.

## Triple Serving of American Theater Takes the Stage at Arena

BY SHEILA WICKOUSKI

rom fairy tales of genies granting three wishes to the circus with three rings, 'good things come in threes' is a familiar saying.

This season, Arena Stage presents a triple treat, with three premieres unfolding in a mini theater festival as the holidays approach.

On the Fichandler Stage, in the tradition of great American family dramas, "The Other Americans" premieres October 18 and runs through November 24. Emmy Award-winning actor, comedian, and producer John Leguizamo stars as Nelson Castro, a Colombian-Puerto Rican business owner who faces a collision of crises when his son returns home from a mental wellness facility.

"John Leguizamo has crafted an exquisite story of the hope and cost of manifesting the American Dream," Arena Stage Artistic Director Hana S. Sharif said in a press release. "We have never seen a family like the Castros on our stage before, and this phenomenal ensemble invites us into the joy, complexity, and humanity of family in the face of tragedy. The Other Americans is a treatise on love."

In the Kogod Cradle, the world premiere of playwright Matthew Libby's

"Data" (Oct. 31-Dec. 15) goes behind the locked doors of Silicon Valley in a suspenseful and highly relevant new play. Protagonist Maneesh is a brilliant entry-level programmer at Athena Technologies, but the true nature of Athena's highly controversial and secretive work threatens his idealism, forcing him to come to terms with his unique American identity while learning how far a technology company will go to hide its deepest secrets.

"This play was born out of my experience coming of age in Silicon Valley, torn between the tech industry's glamor and its power, — a tension that, as the past several decades have proven, creates the world we live in for better or worse," Libby said in a press release.

In the Kreeger Theater, Ken Ludwig's adaptation of Agatha Christie's classic "Death on the Nile" (Nov. 23-Dec. 29), has Hercule Poirot entangled in a web of deceit and desire aboard a cruise ship on the Nile River. When a murder occurs among the passengers, Poirot springs into action to unmask a killer who could strike again at any moment.

More information and ticket prices are available at arenastage.org.

# Support Southwest DC as a Volunteer Grant Writer

Do you have research and writing skills? Experience writing grant applications? A commitment to your community and a few hours a month to help out?

Join the all-volunteer team at the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA) as they seek and apply for grants that support local journalism like The Southwester.

We need your help to keep our community newspaper free and available to Southwest residents. Please contact Beth Hall at hall. beth@gmail.com or (202) 329-5727 for more information. Thank you for your support!

## Theater Alliance Takes Up Residence in Southwest

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

heater Alliance, which was founded in 1993 as a community theater and became a professional company in 2001, will present its new season from a first-floor space in The Westerly, located at 340 Maple Drive SW.

Theater Alliance, which "develops, produces, and presents socially conscious, thought-provoking work that fully engages the community in active dialogue," previously presented work at the H Street Playhouse and Anacostia Playhouse.

The organization noted that after losing its previous performance space in March 2024, ongoing development and rising costs made finding a suitable venue in Anacostia unachievable, but after "months of searching," they were "thrilled to announce" their new temporary home.

The relocation to the Westerly came under a "pilot, year-long, innovative model for arts engagement, thanks to Mayor Bowser's new pop-up permitting program which has allowed us to activate vacant retail space and continue to serve our community," said Producing Artistic Director Shanara Gabrielle in a press release.

Gabrielle also credited The Westerly developer Hoffman & Associates for making the move possible.

"We are incredibly excited to welcome Theater Alliance to The Westerly for their 2024-25 season," said Hoffman & Associates Vice President Ryan Dring. "The Westerly reserved over 9,000 square feet for a theater or performing arts venue. Our efforts to lease the space have not been successful to date for some of the challenges that Theater Alliance references. The Mayor's Pop-Up Program has provided an opportunity to use the space for its intended purpose while also providing a temporary home for Theater Alliance. Together, we are proud to contribute to the continued growth and vibrancy of this neighborhood we serve."

The first show of the Southwestbased season is "Covenant," billed as Southern Gothic meets the blues, fresh from an off-Broadway run. Performances begin October 17 and run through November 3.

Winter 2025 will bring the DC regional premier of buddy comedy "The Garbologists," and in Spring 2025, Theater Alliance will present another DC regional premier, "American Fast," the story of a young Muslim woman balancing the pressures of faith, fame and family amid the famous March Madness basketball tournament.

For tickets and more information, visit www. theateralliance.com.



Courtesy of Theater Alliance

The Theater Alliance will present its current season at The Westerly.



## **Young Readers**

## It's Still My Favorite

BY KITTY FELDE

I t's the hardest question in the world: what's your favorite book and why?

I ask it at book festivals, classroom visits, and tapings of the Book Club for Kids podcast. I'm often surprised when kids and adults name a picture book - and then recite from memory a particular line or describe a specific illustration.

There's nothing wrong with reading books below our reading level or books that we've already read. Someone called them our "literary friends" - books that remind us of happier times.

Picture books are often our first introduction to literature and feeling the power to decipher words. They inhabit a special place in our hearts.

If you have a young reader who's fallen out of love with reading, ask them about their favorite book.

Then find it at the library or local bookstore. Read it together. Or perhaps, leave it around the house "accidentally" where the reluctant reader can rediscover it for themselves. Talk about it. What is it about the book that resonates with your young reader? Does it have the same effect on you? Share your own favorite book.

That reunion with a favorite book can remind us of the joy of reading and take us back to the days when reading wasn't an assignment, a chore, a bore, but a door to that magical place where we first discovered the power of a story.

Kitty Felde's "Estado de la Unión," the Spanish language version of "State of the Union," just won the International Latino Book Award. Her Fina Mendoza Mysteries are published by Chesapeake Press

# Book Review

## Fall Into A New Season of Books

BY RHONDA HENDERSON

ith crisp leaves dancing around the Duck Pond, squirrels attempting to surreptitiously hide acorns (but fooling no one), and hoodies now a necessity to walk kiddos to school or make that quick coffee run, we know it's (finally!) fall in Southwest.

I believe it's always time for a good read, but the early evenings grant cover to put on jammies early, and get cozy. And for cozy season, I want immersive reads with rich language and a different perspective.

Here's what's on my side table, or inside my tote bag if I decide to venture out for a beverage. (I will not be dragged into a divisive debate about pumpkin spiced lattes, so enjoy whatever beverage warms your heart).

*All Fours*, Miranda July. Full disclosure: I began reading this novel on vacation in August but I put it down because the main character got on my last nerve with her scandalous choices! Of course, my visceral reaction

is just testament to July's powerful writing, along with the National Book Award Nomination. So, I'm determined to finish the book and find out what happens.

We're Alone, Edwidge Danticat. Krik? Krak! installed Danticat on my "will read anything they publish list" and I have been faithful to this relationship. This collection of expansive essays explore travel, safety, racism, and other topics. What I am looking forward to is how her writing is a portal into place, often Haiti, and emotion, often passionately explored.

Grief is for People, Sloane Crosley. A "new-to-me" author, but well known in the literary world, Crosley is the author of ten books that include novels and essays. That the title reframes the usually sad experience of grief as purposeful – "for people" – sparks my curiosity. How will this humor writer disrupt the common formulation for processing loss? I'll have to pull out the flannel and find out.



## **LOG ON TODAY!**

Page 10 The Southwester November 2024

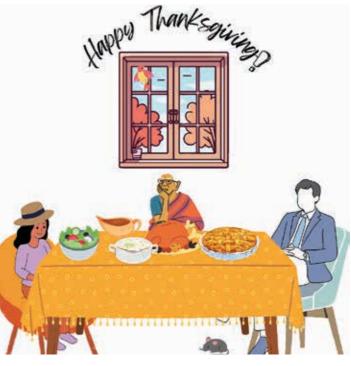


Each month check out the most recent issue of the paper for activities and games to help you discover SWDC! Have a suggestion? Email us: editor@thesouthwester. com. Check out next month's issue for the answers!

## **Spot the difference!**

Can you spot the differences in the two scenes below?





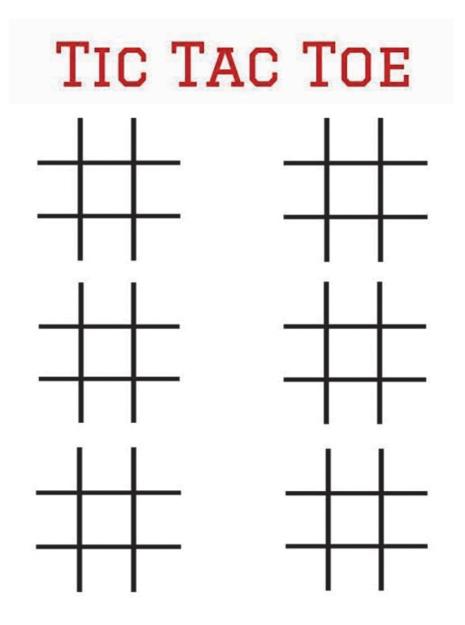
## 4.\_\_\_\_\_\_ 5.\_\_\_\_\_

# Answers from October 2024 issue

**Differences:** The picture on the right has a spider near the witch; the picture on the right has scary balloons; the picture on the left has a ghost in the window; the hat on the three stacked pumpkins is different; the pumpkin in the bottom left of both pictures is different; the hand in the bottom right of both pictures is different; the picture on the right has an eyeball in a window.

## **WORD SEARCH: THANKSGIVING!**





November 2024 The Southwester Page 11



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!

# Math Moment!

Can you solve these equations?

150 + 50 =

 $7 \times 7 =$ 

962 - 350 =

59 – 12 =

 $50 \times 4 =$ 

 $9 \times 5 =$ 

100 / 25 =

15 x 4 =

18 + 18 =

64 / 8 =

10 x 10 =

 $100 \times 10 =$ 

## Jokes!

What did the teapot say to the teacup? (submitted by Ella)

This will be TEA-rrific!

Why is Santa good at karate? Because he has a black belt!

Why did the turkey join a band? So he could use his drumsticks!

Write Your Own Joke!


If you would like to submit a joke to *The Southwester*, email it to editor@thesouthwester.com

## **Drawing Time!**

What would you like to draw?

# Allen Bill Passes Council to Expand Access to Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

BY SOUTHWESTER STAFF

n October 15, the DC Council approved legislation proposed by Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen to expand access to both public and private electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. Should it be signed into law by DC Mayor Muriel Bowser, the bill calls for the District to install 5% of ports relative to the number of registered electric vehicles and provide a clear direction for how to direct federal dollars dedicated to charging infrastructure, while ensuring renters are allowed to install charging stations at home, with reasonable limits.

"Some people hesitate about going electric because of 'range anxiety,' or the fear they don't know when or where they will charge the car. But we need people to go electric - and fast. This bill sends a clear signal that coming soon, there are going to be a lot of chargers available in places where people live, work, and shop," Allen said in a press release. "This is an infrastructure bill that sets goals and clears red tape to get more chargers installed where people actually want and need them."

Allen, the Chair of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, noted that as of 2023, there were around 8,100 electric vehicles

registered in the District, but only around 1,057 public charging ports in 317 locations, in addition to 132 private charging ports in 44 locations.

"This is a blueprint for leveraging the once-in-a-generation investments from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and other federal grant opportunities. This legislation will undoubtedly accelerate the District's transition to our renewable energy future, minimize our impact on the climate, and build a healthier, greener, and more resilient city," Allen said.

Beginning January 1, 2027, the bill requires all new or substantially improved commercial and multi-unit buildings that have parking lots and

garages to include infrastructure that accommodates EV charging stations, and to have a certain percentage of dedicated EV-ready and EV-installed spaces. It creates an Electric Vehicle Charging Incentive Program to incentivize the purchase, installation, and upgrades of EV charging ports, such as a voucher for homeowners to supplement or fully cover the cost of purchasing and installing an EV charging

Other provisions in the bill create a permitting requirement for newly built or renovated single-family homes with dedicated off-road parking (i.e., driveway parking spots or garages) to be EV charging-ready with at least electrical capacity to support Level 1 charging - i.e., a standard electric outlet.

For renters, the bill gives condominium unit owners, co-op members, and homeowners who are part of a condo or community association the right to install EV charging ports with reasonable requirements and safety restrictions by condo, co-op, or other common interest boards, as well as giving renters the right to install EV charging ports at their place of residence, with reasonable requirements and safety restrictions able to be imposed by housing providers.

For new or substantially improved gas stations projected to sell more than one million gallons of gasoline per year, Allen's bill would require the installation of a direct current, fast-charging electric vehicle charging port.

## Adapting to a New Normal – Disaster Preparedness in Australia



## NOVEMBER 4<sup>™</sup> 7pm – 8pm

SW BID CONFERENCE ROOM

420 4TH Street SW

## ANDREW McCULLOUGH & JOSH McLAREN

Two visiting New South Wales State Emergency Service Managers will share insights with us from their work in Australia where communities are facing extraordinary threats due to climate change.

Come and join the discussion and see what we can learn to help advance our own community preparedness in Washington DC.

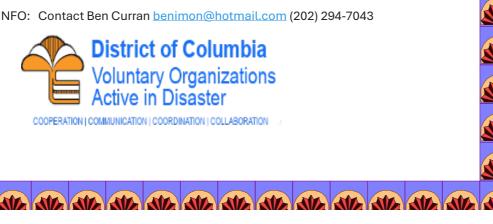
FOR ZOOM LINK INFO: Contact Ben Curren benimon@hotmail.com (202) 294-7043

## PRINCIPAL

Continued from p. 6

#### Out of the schools you've worked at, what makes Amidon different?

I started in elementary and did middle and high for a while and now back to elementary. We are in the middle of this amazing neighborhood. We had a school leader, Ms. Sykes who was here for a long time, and did so much great work to set Amidon up for success. We also have a gym, and athletic fields and that puts us in the position to have such cool sports for our school. We have a great group of families and students. We have a lot of families from the neighborhood but also many families. Pride in the school is something that is remarkable and I know families come from across town that have a connection with Amidon. We are the best in Southwest!



### **HARGRAVE**

Continued from p. 1

the launch of Jazz Night in DC.

"C.W. recalled the Westminster DC site that was originally located at 7th and D streets before its current location at 4th and I Streets Southwest," said Rev. Brian Hamilton. He added that "during the 1980s, C.W. advocated for ensuring that the presbytery focused on a representation of ethnicity inclusion and equity for women, especially the difficulty of women's pastoral call."

As an elected Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner (ANC) and a board member of the Friends of Southwest, C.W. helped shape public policy and community outreach as an affordable housing advocate to support the residents in DC's smallest quadrant. He called Capitol Park home. This DC historic housing community dates to the 1950's and 60's urban renewal plan and is the first and largest residential complex in the Southwest neighborhood.

Gottlieb Simon, a longtime Southwest resident who served more than two decades as the director of the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions and executive director of the Southwest ANC from 1976 to 2001, recalled working alongside and supporting C.W.'s dedication and vision for his beloved Southwest community.

"C.W.'s leadership as a five-term member and treasurer of the Southwest ANC has had a long-term impact on the betterment of Southwest," said Simon. He further shared that C.W.'s " major focus was on ensuring that the Southwest urban renewal plan was implemented according to the guidelines."

During C.W.'s tenure as a commissioner, his major community and economic development accomplishments include leading the efforts in institutionalizing the Southwest urban renewal plan's opportunities and requirements in three ways – job creation, entrepreneurship, and zoning. First, he worked to ensure jobs were prioritized for Southwest resi-

dents during the pre- and post-construction phases of the housing and commercial developments, as well as infrastructure improvements. Second, he advocated for entrepreneurs to support small business development. C.W. cited challenges working with DC government officials regarding resources, encouraged community leaders to disseminate information, and helped to secure small business start-up capital. Third, he worked to address the impact of the change in the Southwest Urban Redevelopment Plan (SWURP) zoning policy.

According to Simon, zoning under the plan offered special rules that allowed for the creation of "super blocks." In applying the rules, the street grid infrastructure was redesigned to include multiple blocks to support the quadrant's development. However, when the SWURP expired, there was a challenge regarding how to fit those blocks back into traditional zoning rules. He pointed out that C.W. played a major role in the rezoning process to protect the integrity of connecting the "new" Southwest urban

renewal development to the other DC quadrants.

An advocate for higher education, C.W. was an active member of the Commissioner of the National Capital Presbytery's Committee on Higher Education. An alumnus of Johnson C. Smith University (founded as Freedmen's College of North Carolina), an HBCU, his life values embodied the institution's motto of "let there be light." He demonstrated this motto through his calling to serve others as a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (Rho Chapter) for 75 years. He also served as president of his alma mater's DC alumni chapter and first vice president, treasurer, and chaplain of the national alumni association.

C.W. humbly served the presbytery, as well as the nation as a military Captain and federal public servant, and the community an area representative for the DC Board of Election. Join the Southwest DC community in saluting, celebrating, and remembering a legend, friend, and his legacy-Charles William "C.W." Hargrave.



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## Southwester Community Calendar | November 2024

Please check the web references or telephone numbers in the listings for details Southwest Neighborhood Library events are at https://tinyurl.com/5n8c929r



FRI 1, 8:00 A.M., 12:10 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. ALL SAINTS DAY, St. Dominic's Catholic Church. Masses in the Church, 501 6<sup>th</sup> St. SW. http://www.stdominicchurch.org

**SAT 2, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M., BOOKMARK DESIGN CONTEST.** Work on your entry for the 2025 **Southwest Library** Annual Bookmark Design Contest or learn how you can submit a digital entry. All ages.

**SUN 3, and 17, 1:00-2:00 P.M., SIT & STITCH**. Stitchers of all kinds and skill levels, join us for stitching and community. Basic instruction available for beginners. Want a reminder? Please email abigail.hargreaves@dc.gov. Ages 13+.Southwest Library.

**SUN 3, 5:30 P.M. SOLEMN VESPERS,** in St. Dominics Catholic Church. Reception following in the Parish Meeting Room. 630 E St SW.

MON 4 and 18, 3:30-4:30 P.M., EXPLORE THE WORLD THROUGH A MICROSCOPE We will explore different sizes and shapes by adventuring through the world of a MICROSCOPE for this fun 1-hour event. Educational Program | STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) Seniors, Adults, 5+. Southwest Library.

MON 4, 7:00-8:00 P.M. Adapting to a New Normal –Disaster Preparedness in Australia, Two visiting New South Wales State Emergency Service Managers will share insights with us from their work in Australia where communities are facing extraordinary threats due to climate change. Come and join the discussion and see what we can learn to help advance our own community preparedness in Washington DC. FOR ZOOM LINK INFO: Contact Ben Curran benimon@hotmail.com (202) 294-7043. SW BID CONFERENCE ROOM, 420 4TH Street SW

**TUES 5 and 19, 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 Library.

WED 6, 6-7:00 P.M., GET REAL: A NONFICTION BOOK CLUB. Discuss The Feather Thief: Beauty, Obsession, and the Natural History Heist of the Century by Kirk Wallace Johnson with fellow nonfiction readers. Place a hold or pick up a copy at Southwest Library. Ages 18+.

**WED 6, 7:00 P.M. ANC 6D, Administrative Meeting.** Contact 6D@anc.dc.gov for access to the meeting via Zoom.

WED 6, 6:30-7:30 P.M., PRAYERS FOR WORLD PEACE, 1st Wednesday of the Month. Kadampa Meditation Center, 1200 Canal St, SW. www. meditation-dc.org

**THURS 7 and 21, 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. **Meeting Room 1,** Seniors, Adults. Southwest Library.

**THURS 7 and 21, 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

Library.

**SAT 9, 7:00 P.M. FAITH & FILM.** A Monthly Zoom presentation 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 church office at. All Invited . Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**SUN 10, 17, and 24, 6:30 P.M., RELIGIOUS MOVIE SEMINAR,** in the Parish Meeting Room, 630 E St. SW, http://www.stdominicchurch.org. **PLEASE NOTE:** St. Dominic Church recently *eliminated the 8 a.m. Mass held Monday through Friday as well as the 5 p.m. Mass on Sunday evening* (the 5 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday evening continues).

MON 11, 7:00 P.M., VETERAN'S DAY MASS in the church. St. Dominics Catholic Church. http://www.stdominicchurch.org

**TUES 12, 7:00 P.M. ANC 6D -Business Meeting.** Link to join Draft Agenda will be posted prior to the meeting on https://www.anc6d.org/virtual-meetings/

**WED 13 and 27, 3:30-4:30 P.M., KIDS/TWEENS LEGO Club.** Join us for a fun 1-hr activity building LEGOS. For kids and tweens ages from 6-12. Kids under 9 must be accompanied by a caregiver. Educational Program – Gaming. 5 - 12 Years Old. Southwest Library.

**TUES 19, 6:30-7:30 P.M., OFF SCRIPT!** Come read about the lives of your favorite celebrities in their own words! Book Club, Seniors, Adults. Southwest Library.www.dclibrary.org

WED 20, 12-2 P.M. The Southwest Waterfront **AARP Chapter Welcomes Everyone:** Current AARP Members, Prospective Members, Guests, Neighbors, and Visitors to our November Community Luncheon meeting. Program: Celebration of Thanksgiving with Kitty Johnson, Story **Teller**. We will see how stories build emotional connections among people and experience the magic of conversational storytelling. Everyone is welcome. Please come out and join friends, neighbors, meet new people and share in the experience of personal storytelling, while listening to interesting, imaginative and beautiful stories from others. Location: River Park Mutual Homes Charles Goodman Common Room. 1311 Delaware Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20024. Street Parking available.and Waterfront Metro, (Green Line) is two blocks away. Bus 74 stops in front of the River Park Delaware Avenue Gate. LUNCH AVAILABLE-COST-\$5.00 A Vegetarian Lunch will also be available upon request. For further information contact Betty Jean Tolbert Jones, bettyjeantolbertjones@yahoo.com or 202-554-0901

**MON 25, 3:30-4:30 P.M. SOLVE THE MYSTERY PUZZLES.** Solve the mystery of several puzzles from a cube to a pyramid in this fun 1-hour program event. Age-Friendly DC | Educational Program | Gaming, Seniors, 5+. Southwest Library.

MON 25, 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 Library

**THURS 28, 10:30 A.M. THANKSGIVING DAY Mass,** St. Dominic's in the church. 501 6<sup>th</sup> St. SW. www.stdominicchurch.org

**FRI 29, 12:00 - 7:00 P.M., VIEW MAJOR RELICS OF ST. THOMAS AQUINAS,** St. Dominic's in the church. 501 6<sup>th</sup> St. SW. www.stdominicchurch.org

#### **WEEKLY, BI-WEEKLY**

**DORCAS CLOTHING CLOSET, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.,** Donate gently worn coats, jackets, winter clothing, and footwear. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th St., SW. Enter the basement, by the white gate, across from the Southwest Public Library.

**AFTER SCHOOL GAMES, Thursdays, 4:00-5:00 P.M.,** End the school day at the Southwest Library and join us for some self-directed after-school games! We'll have board games, card games, and occasionally some larger games to play, or we can help you login to your preferred computer game if computers are available.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. Mondays: Informed; Tuesdays: Life Saver Big Book; Wednesday: New Beginners; Thursdays: Out to Lunch; Fridays: T.G.I.F. at 12:00 Noon. St. Dominic Catholic Church, 630 E Street SW) or Wednesdays: Creative Arts, 7:00 (St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 555 Water St SW). This fellowship is open to all men and women who desire to recover from alcoholism. You will be welcome; for more .https://aa-dc.org/meetings/t-g-i-f

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

**BLUES MONDAYS, 6:00-9:00 P.M.** Various Blues musicians and singers are featured each Monday. \$10 cover and food for sale, (cash/credit card accepted). Schedule at Westminster Presbyterian Church. https://westminsterdc.org/blue-monday-schedule.

**BREAD FOR LIFE - BREAKFAST, Sundays, 8-8:45 A.M.** Free Breakfast. Every Sunday morning beginning at 8:00 A.M., St A's offers a free hot breakfast to go. Our breakfast includes eggs, cheese grits, sausage, juice and a pastry. 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. Visit our website at www.staugustinesdc. org/bread-for-life. Please come pick up a hot breakfast at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, the rear door is located at 6th St & Maine Ave. SW.

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, and building back up again. Southwest Library.

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

**ENCORE CREATIVITY FOR OLDER ADULTS-**DC Rocks Rehearsals. For more information, contact: https://encorecreativity.org/

**FAMILY STORY TIME, Mondays, 10:30-11:00 A.M. (not on Nov. 11**<sup>th</sup> **).** Family Story Time is a great way to further your child's lifelong love of

See "Calendar," page 15

### **CALENDAR**

Continued from p. 14

reading and learning. Ages 0 - 5.

**FILM DISCUSSION, Tuesdays, 12:00 - 1:00 P.M.** Join this energetic, weekly conversation circle made of your neighbors and fellow library users centered around a short film. Ages 18+.

**GAME TIME. Thursdays, 4-5:00 P.M.** Let's play. 5-12 years old. Southwest Library.

**GODLY PLAY PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN, Sundays 11- 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.org/

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-night-in-dc-schedule Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**JOB SEEKERS**, **Mondays**, **1-3:00 P.M.** Stop by for this drop-in clinic where we answer your ques-

tions and provide guidance and assistance to job seekers in their search. Southwest Library. (**Not November 11**)

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. www.meditation-dc.org

**KOMEN TOASTMASTERS.** We meet on the **2nd 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, 7-8:00 P.M.** Contact Westminster Presbyterian Church for more information at wpcdcoffice@gmail.com.

**RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH PROTEIN PAN-TRY, 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, 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

**SENSORY PLAYTIME. Fridays, 10:30-11:30 A.M.** Join us in the Children's Room every Friday for fun sensory play. Birth-5, Southwest Library. *(Not on November 29)* 

**A.M.** Weekly Drop In Class, Kadampa Meditation Center DC 1200 Canal St SW., (202) 430-6540 www.meditation-dc.org me

**SWAN: SOUTHWEST AL ANON, Tuesdays, 7-8:00 P.M.** This fellowship is open to all those who have been affected by a loved one's drinking. **St. Augustine's Episcopal Church**. https://al-anon.org/al-anon-meetings/find-an-al-anon-meeting

WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB (WSCC) meets at 7:00 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: rbswest-minster@gmail.com

## VIEW OUR ONLINE CALENDAR AT WWW.SWNA.ORG

Submit Calendar events to calendar@thesouthwester.com by the 15th of the month preceding the month it is scheduled.





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