

The Southwester

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Cherry Blossom Events In SW

By Dale MacIver

Mar. 24 to Apr. 2 is the first estimate of the National Park Service on the peak blooming time for Cherry Blossoms circling the Tidal Basin at 15th to 17th Sts. where Maine Ave. S.W. meets Independence Ave. S.W. Phone the public information line at 202-619-7222 for the latest estimate

Entertainment at Jefferson Mem.

Southwest events of the National Cherry Blossom festival start Sat. Mar. 27 with daily free entertainment from noon to 2 pm at the Tidal Basin Stage at the Jefferson Memorial, 15th and Independence Ave. S.W. Next, at 2pm that day is a walking tour leaving the Smithsonian Metro Station - Independence Ave. exit. No reservations are required but the cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children age 12 and under.

Kimonos at Mandarin Hotel

Also from 2 pm to 4 pm Sat. Mar. 27 is a free discussion and exhibit of Japanese textiles, at the new Mandarin Oriental Hotel, 1330 Maryland Ave. SW. Other events at the Mandarin Oriental are in our separate article on this page.

Chamber Music in SW Apr. 1

A free chamber music concert is at South-

west's St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 6th and Maine Ave. SW, Thurs. Apr. 1 at 7:30 pm. Poster art, including the winning 2004 cherry blossom festival poster, is on display from Mar. 27 through Apr. 11 at Millennium Arts Center, 65 I (Eye) St. S.W. Hours Wed. - Sat. 11 am to 5 pm. Ring the bell. Phone 479-2572.

Fireworks on the Waterfront

On Sat. Apr. 10 the Southwest Waterfront will be the scene of free fireworks at 8 pm followed by a parade of lighted boats. Best viewing is from the promenade in front of the restaurants, or from East Potomac Park.

Odyssey and Spirit Cruises in SW

If you have \$125 for a black tie optional dinner cruise on the Odyssey or \$75 for a dinner cruise on the Spirit of Washington II, call for reservations. The Odyssey boards at 6 pm on Thurs. Apr. 8. (Call 202-661-7584). The Spirit of Washington II boards at 6:30 pm Sat. Apr. 10 and includes viewing the fireworks. (Call 866-211-3811)

Gospel Concert

Sun. Apr. 11, the final day of the festival, includes a gospel concert at the Tidal Basin Stage. (Time to be announced). ■

Amistad Slave Ship in SW Apr. 30-May 9

The public will be welcome to tour (weekday afternoons and all day weekends) a replica of the famous *Amistad* sailing ship when it docks at the Gangplank Marina, 6th & Water St. S.W. for a two-week visit Apr. 30 - May 9

In 1839 Africans held as slaves aboard the *Amistad* freed themselves from their chains and took control of the ship. However, a U.S. Coast Guard crew boarded the ship and had it towed to New London, Conn., where the Africans were placed in custody. The U.S. Supreme Court finally released them and they returned to Africa.

For details phone the National Maritime Heritage Foundation, which is hosting the visit, at (202) 547-1250, or visit the foundation's web site. www.nmhf.org. ■

SWNA Election Sat. Mar. 20

At tables between Safeway and Harry's Liquors the annual election of officers and Board members for the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly will be held from 10 am to 3 pm Sat. Mar. 20. All residents of Near Southwest (zip code 20024) age 18 and over are eligible to vote. No advance registration is necessary. Just put your name and address on a card at the voting tables and you will be given a ballot. Candidates on the ballots are:

- President - Marge Maceda
- Vice President - Perry Klein

- Treas. Ellen Winship
- Secretary - (write in)
- District Representatives*
(vote for two in your district)
- District 1 - Linda Churchville and Deloice Leggett
- District 2 - Maurice Boyd and Tom Heinemann
- District 3 Sherry L. Davis
- District 4 = Herb Holmes, Vanessa Ruffin, Pat Pressley and Kevin Thomas. Write-ins are permitted, but not absentee ballots. ■

Mandarin Oriental Hotel Opens Mar. 22

Starting Mon. Mar. 22, the new Mandarin Oriental Hotel at 1330 Maryland Ave. S.W. will be open. An official opening ceremony is set for Mar. 27

The hotel will be the scene of many National Cherry Blossom Festival activities, including a display and sale of traditional Japanese Kimonos in the Hotel Gallery through April 30.

On Wed. Mar. 31 the Mandarin Oriental will host the Grand Sushi & Sake Tasting, with \$79 reservations at 301-738-2409. On Mon. Apr. 1, Cherry Blossom Queens will be honored at a \$75 luncheon at the hotel (1-800-494-8497).

Free Cherry Blossom events at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel include a discussion and exhibit on Japanese Textiles from 2 to 4 pm Sat. Mar. 27, repeated on Sun. Apr. 4, and a reservations-only Opening Ceremony for the festival Sat. Mar. 27 at 5:30 pm, with entertainment and dignitaries. Phone 202-661-7590 for reservations.

The 400 room luxury hotel has cost an estimated \$144 million, including a

contribution of \$46 million in tax-increment bonds by the District of Columbia government.

The hotel advertises itself as "including 51 suites offering the latest technology and in-room entertainment, an 8,300 sq. ft. pillar-less ballroom, and a spa and health club with indoor pool and deck." ■

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Parent Workshops To Prevent Teen Pregnancy

Syphax Gardens' parents recently attended a workshop on talking to teens about love, sex and relationships.

Southwest parents interested in holding a similar 2-3 hour workshop can contact Thelma Jones, 202-488-3746.

She is a parent peer educator trained by the DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. ■

AARP Offers Video On Illness, Dying

A new 32-minute video on serious illness and dying is for sale from AARP's Legal Counsel for the Elderly website at www.aarp.org/lce/ video or by phone at 202-434-7329. Leaders Guides can be downloaded from the site. ■

Quiz The Police, March 30

Tues. Mar. 30 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm is a good chance for residents of Southwest to meet the local lieutenant, sergeants and officers of the D.C. police department responsible for our area. The monthly public meeting for Police Service Area 110 will be on the ground floor of the apartment house at 240 M St. S.W. - in the Thelma Martin room, with a separate entrance.

Bring a friend and listen or ask questions. ■

SW Schools Face Layoffs

Temporary funding provided by the superintendent, Board of Education, Mayor and Council stopped a threatened layoff of teachers, but permanent cuts will be made for next school year in coming weeks.

Parents of the 100 or so SW students attending Wilson High School heard that four or five teaching positions will be lost.

Other information on Woodrow Wilson High is available on the school web site www.wilsonhs.org. ■

Southwest Community Calendar March 20 - April 26

MONTHLY

Mar. 20 Public election of board members for Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc. (SWNA). Waterfront Mall. 10 am to 2 pm.
Mon. Mar. 22 Monthly meeting of SWNA, topic Lead in Water, St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 3rd and M St. S.W. 7:30 pm - 9 pm.
Wed. Mar. 24 Cherry Blossoms at their peak next 10 days. Jefferson Memorial
Wed. Mar. 24 Save Our Schools meeting, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4th & I (Eye) St. S.W. 7 pm
Thurs. Mar. 25 Cherry Blossom Festival Opens
Thurs. Mar. 25 Mandarin Oriental Hotel opens for guests, 1330 Maryland Ave. S.W.
Sat. Mar. 27 noontime concerts at Jefferson Memorial through Apr. 11
Sat. Mar. 27 Cherry Blossom walking tour starting at Independence Ave. exit to Smithsonian Metro \$10. noon - 2
Sat. Mar. 27 Japanese textiles and Kimono show, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, 2 to 4 pm
Tues. Mar. 30 Quiz Your Police, 240 M St. S.W. First floor. 7 pm - 8:30 pm
Thurs. Apr. 1, Chamber Music Concert. Free. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 6th and Maine Ave. SW.
Tues. Apr. 6 Police Citizens Advisory Council public meeting, 415 4th St. S.W. 7 pm
Wed. Apr. 7 Labyrinth Walk, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4th & I (Eye) St. S.W. 7:30 pm
Thurs. Apr. 8 Club #4 Awards Night, Bowen gym, entrance rear of Bowen School, 101 M St. S.W. 727-4618
Sat. Apr. 10 Fireworks on SW Waterfront 8 pm. Followed by Parade of Lighted Boats 7th and Water St. S.W. and both sides of the channel.
Sun. Apr. 11 Gospel Concert. Jefferson Memorial, Time TBA..
Mon. Apr. 12 Advisory Neighborhood Commission public meeting, 65 I (Eye) St. S.W. 7 pm
Sat. Apr. 17 Third Sat. Breakfast \$5, Christ United Methodist Church, 4th & I St. SW (entrance across from library) 9 am to 11 am.
Wed. Apr. 21 AARP, SW Library meeting room, K St. S.W. & Wesley Pl. 12 noon
Thurs. Apr. 22 NARFE, SW Library, K St. S.W. & Wesley Pl. 12:30 pm
Mon. Apr. 26 Monthly meeting of SWNA, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 3rd & M St. S.W. 7:30 pm

WEEKLY, BI-WEEKLY

Komen Toastmasters - First & Third Sat., S.W. Library. 10 am.
 Fil-Am Toastmasters - Second & Fourth Wed., S.W. Library. 6:15 pm
 School St. Toastmasters - Every Tues., 400 Virginia Ave. S.W., Room 88 - noon
 Collector's Club Stamps - First & Third Wed., Christ United Methodist Church, 300 block of I (Eye) St. S.W., 7 pm (202-291-62290)
 S.W. Kiwanis - First & Third Mon., Christ United Methodist, 4th & I St. S.W., 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm
 S.W. Citizens Patrol with Officer Kenny Daniels - 4th & M St. S.W., Safeway parking lot, every Tues. At 7 pm
 New Southwest Toastmasters - Every Wed. GSA Bldg - 7th & D St. S.W., Room 5009 (inside cafeteria), noon.

Please submit calendar items for the next issue by Wed. April 7

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The Southwester

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1/4 page	\$140	1/2 page	\$275
Full page	\$550		

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Ad deadline Wed. April 7

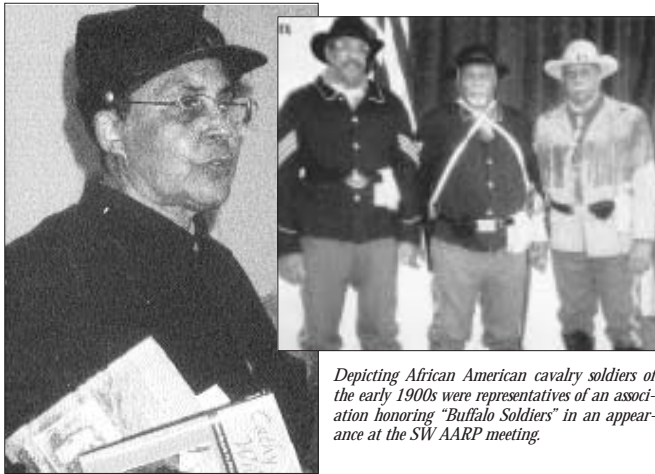


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Buffalo Soldier History at Southwest's AARP Chapter



Depicting African American cavalry soldiers of the early 1900s were representatives of an association honoring "Buffalo Soldiers" in an appearance at the SW AARP meeting.

Southwest's AARP chapter heard the history of U.S. Army horse cavalry units formed in 1866 for African American soldiers and disbanded in 1944 after serving with great courage in the Indian wars, the Spanish American War and others, winning a number of Congressional Medals of Honor. Speakers in costume represented an association that keeps alive the memory of these early African-American patriots.



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Crowns Returns To Arena Stage July 27

The very successful gospel musical *Crowns* will return to Arena Stage for three weeks this summer - July 27 - Aug. 15.

Tickets are already for sale at (202) 488-3300 or on line at www.arenastage.org.

HFA Celebrates 25 Years Apr. 17

The D.C. Housing Finance Agency welcomes the public to a free celebration on Sat. April 17 from 10 am to 2 pm in its auditorium at 815 Florida Ave., NW. (Green Line Metro, U St. station at 9th St. N.W.). Music, food, vendors, celebrities.

For information, call 202-777-1600.

In its 25 years of bring affordable housing to the nation's capital, HFA has financed 20,251 affordable housing units, including 14,198 multifamily and 6,053 single-family units.


Lead Update At SWNA Mon. Mar. 22

Main topic for the monthly meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Mon. Mar. 22 at 7:30 pm at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 3rd and M St. S.W. is lead in the drinking water in some homes in D.C.

Representatives of LEAD, a citizens organization, the D.C. Council, and hopefully WASA will attend.


The newly elected SWNA Board will be sworn in. Refreshments by Mary Kay.

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music and lyrics by Frank Loesser / book by Frank Loesser with Culture Clash / based on a short story by Budd Schulberg / directed by Charles Randolph-Wright / previews start April 9



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click www.arenastage.org or call (202) 488-3300

Local Churches at Easter, '04

(Four Southwest Churches have responded to our request for their Easter week schedules)

Christ United Methodist Church

- Apr. 4, 11 a.m. - Palm Sunday; Cantata, Holy Communion
- Easter Sunday 9 a.m., 11 a.m. worship
(Also Sat. April 17, 9 a.m. - breakfast and every Wed., 6:30 Bible study)

Saint Dominic Parish

- Mar. 24, 7:30 p.m. Communal penitential service with individual confessions
- Apr. 4 - Passion (Palm) Sunday 8 a.m. Mass, with simple entrance
- 10:45 Mass, with solemn entrance
- 12:15 Spanish Mass, with simple entrance
- 5:15 Mass, with simple entrance
- Apr. 5 7:30 Mass, with anointing of the sick
- Mon., Tues., Wed. - 8 a.m., 12:10 a.m. Mass
- Apr. 8 - 7:30 Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
- Apr. 9 - Good Friday 12:15 Stations of the Cross; 3:00 Celebration of the Lord's Passion

- Apr. 10 - Holy Saturday 9 a.m. Tenebrae: offering of readings and morning prayer
7:30 Great Vigil of Easter
- Apr. 11 - Easter Sunday 8 a.m. Mass at dawn;
10:45 festive Mass of Easter;
12:15 Mass in Spanish

Second Union Baptist

- Apr. 9 - 7:30 -7 last sayings of Christ
- Apr. 11 - 7:30 a.m. - Easter Sunrise
10:45 - Morning service

Westminster Presbyterian Church and others

- Apr. 4 - Ecumenical Palm Sunday - 9:30-10:30 a.m. at St. Matthew's Lutheran, continental breakfast; 10:30 a.m. St. Matthew's: Blessing of the Palms and procession to 10:50 St. Augustine's Episcopal for worship and Eucharist. (There will be no Sunday service at Westminster on April 4).
- Sun. Apr. 11 - 10:50 am Easter Service

SWNA 2003 Financial Statement

Opening Balance In Bank		EXPENSES	
\$35,862.32		Scholarship Fund	\$8,596.10
		Southwester	\$21,297.95
	INCOME	Youth Activities TF	\$17,040.26
Scholarship Fund	\$6,137.00	General Fund & Other	\$3,648.21
Southwester	\$17,721.50	Total Expenses	\$50,582.52
Youth Activities TF	\$10,443.37		
General Fund	\$725.00	Ending Balance In Bank	\$20,306.67
Total Income	\$35,026.87		



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Just send us this information:

Project or activity in Southwest for which you need funding assistance:



Number of Southwest people who will benefit: _____
How will a River Park Friends grant be used? _____

Supplies \$ _____ Transportation \$ _____ Admission fees or registration \$ _____ Stipends for participants \$ _____
Other \$ _____ Total Request \$ _____

Name of your organization _____

Address _____ Contact person _____

Phone: Daytime _____ - Night _____



**Let us know how we can help.
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Dems Vote In Southwest

Using regular city voting machines, registered Democrats from Ward 6 (Capitol Hill and Near Southwest) voted their Presidential preferences at an all day "caucus" at St. Matthews Lutheran Church on M St. S.W.

At the citywide caucus, Andy Litsky was elected a delegate to the Democratic National Convention supporting Sen. John F. Kerry. ■



Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), a resident of Ward 6, signs for a ballot at the Democratic Caucus at St. Matthews Lutheran Church.



Council member Phil Mendelsohn and his daughter, above, attended the Ward 6 caucus.

At right, School Board member Tommy Wells, left, helped out at the Ward 6 Democratic balloting.



Millennium Adds New Tenants, Programs

By Mark Clark

The Millennium Art Center, at 65 I Street, SW, has added three non-profit arts groups to its roster of tenants. The Dance Institute of Washington, Life Pieces to Masterpieces, and Musefire Productions now utilize space in the former Randall Junior High building, and offer educational programs to area residents.

The Dance Institute of Washington, founded and directed by Fabian Barnes, utilizes dance training for character and physical development, and offers classes for ballet, tap and modern dance at moderate cost. Scholarships are available.

Life Pieces to Masterpieces founder Larry B. Quick has devised a program that uses painting, creative writing, storytelling and drumming to teach life skills to disadvantaged youth from housing projects in the District of Columbia. The organization enables young men to discover their innate and creative abilities to transform challenges into possibilities.

Musefire Productions conducts one-day workshops that create personal theatrical narratives, culminating in performances that allow participants to tell their stories to a wider public. Laura Zam and Michelle T. Hall facilitate and direct the workshops that are free and open to the public.

Art Enables, a program for "folk and outsider artists", held a very successful 2nd Anniversary Art Sale in their classroom at the Millennium Art Center on Saturday, the 28th of February. Forty five drawings and paintings were sold to the 120 visitors to the exhibition, in what spectators called a "feeding frenzy" of art appreciation. Information on programs at MAC can be obtained by phoning 479-2572, or by dropping by their offices by ringing the bell at 65 I (Eye) St. S.W. and waiting. ■



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Club #4 Awards Night Thursday, April 8

The annual awards night at Police Boys & Girls Club #4 is in the Bowen School gym, Thurs. Apr. 8 at 5:30 p.m. Trophies will be awarded for community service, cheerleaders, and individuals on athletic teams in baseball 2003, football 2003 and basketball 2004. ■

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Speakers At SWNA



Robert Young, left, dressed as a Civil War soldier of the Massachusetts 54th Regiment, company B.



Architect Charles Cassell, right, told of the work of his father Albert Cassell in designing SW's James Creek Housing, Howard University's Founder's Library, and other buildings.

Safe Sitter Class At River Park March 27

Through a \$200 grant from River Park Friends baby sitter training for ages 11 to 13 will be given at River Park apartment house, 1311 Delaware Ave. S.W., South Common Room, Sat. Mar. 27 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

A continental breakfast, lunch and mid-afternoon snack will be served

Parents can register a student by calling certified Safe Sitter Instructor Thelma Jones 202-488-3746, who will be aided by instructor Anita Sands and a fire emergency instructor.

Sponsor of the training is the SW Youth Activities Task Force, the only registered Safe Sitter site in D.C.

Cultural Events in Southwest D.C.

By Mark Clark

March and April are full of free cultural events for Southwest residents. As our abysmal Washington weather makes steady improvement, there are dozens of events and exhibitions for even the most financially strapped, within easy walking distance of our neighborhood.

Close at hand, the **Art in the Sanctuary** program at **Westminster Presbyterian Church** at 400 I Street, SW, is featuring the jazz inspired paintings of Jay Coleman. Coleman's large, colorful oils depict John Coltrane and other greats, while echoing the beat of their music.

The annual **Kite Festival** is poised to take advantage of the strong March winds. It is held on the **National Monument** grounds on Saturday, the Mar. 27th between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., and will feature a competition and demonstrations by a range of international kite flying experts. Southwesters are urged to bring a kite, and don't forget the kids.

In conjunction with the **Cherry Blossom festivities**, the **Freer/Sackler Museum** (10th to 12th Ave. SW at Independence Ave. - Smithsonian Metro) will feature a free **Yasujiro Ozu film festival** on weekends until April 25 - some Fridays at 7 pm and some Sundays at 2 pm.

Single Southwesters can impress their dates with their esoteric knowledge of Japanese cinema while picking up their free tickets one hour ahead of show times. Ozu's oeuvre includes dramas, comedies and gangster noir movies from 1929 to 1961. A complete listing is available on the Freer's website, www.asia.si.edu.

As part of the **Environmental Film Festival** taking place here in Washington, **The National Museum of the American Indian** is sponsoring **three free movies** at the **Hirshhorn's Ring Auditorium**, 7th & Independence Ave. S.W. (L'Enfant Plaza Metro). The featured films include "Totem: Return of the G'ps-golox Pole", on Thursday, March 25 at 8 p.m.. "Totem" is documentary about NMAI's repatriation to Alaskan natives of a totem pole purloined by the Harriman Expedition at the turn of the last century. Friday, March 26 at 8, the films are "Song of the Earth" and "Voices of the Sierra Tarahumara", about a tribe in Northern Mexico affected by logging and mining operations.

On Saturday, the 20th of March, **the National Museum of Natural History** is throwing an event billed as "**America's Wildest Festival**," which celebrates the centennial of the National Wildlife Refuge System. It runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and promises lots of interactive experiences, including music, puppets and wildlife illustration demonstrations, for the entire family.

Also at NMNH, the winning selections from the **2003 Jackson Hole International Wildlife Film Festival** will be screened between 11:30 and 5:30 in Baird Auditorium on Sunday, March 28th. Go early and check out the new Kenneth D Behring Family Hall of Mammals.

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, on 17th Street Northwest at New York Avenue, has a must-see exhibition called "**The Quilts of Gee's Bend**". These sewn abstract compositions by impoverished African-American women from a remote area in Alabama carry patchwork quilting to new heights, winning praise from avant-garde critics and astronomical prices from modern collectors. The works amply demonstrate that lack of money is no barrier to making great art. The Corcoran is free on Mondays and is open weekdays except Tuesday from 10 to 5.

On the third of April, the **National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade** steps off at 10:00 on Pennsylvania Avenue, with bands, floats, acrobats, vintage cars and princesses.

For sports fans who prefer their football without helmets or pads, there's the **Cherry Blossom Rugby Tournament** going on simultaneously on the hockey fields by the Lincoln Memorial.

And for aficionados of animation there's the **Japanese Anime Film Marathon** starting at 11:00 a.m. at the Freer on the same day. Free admission.

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Second Union Asks For After School Houses

(Excerpts from a letter from Rev. Dr. James Butts, Second Union Baptist Church)

“We hear about the crime rate and how bad the children are, but we have not done anything to change it. As a Pastor in the SW area of DC, I have found it very difficult to get help from those who hold the keys to help!

“We have talked with the government concerning the two houses that should be used for the community, but just sit unused each and every day. The government asked us to write a proposal, so we paid a proposal writer and haven't heard anything from them.

“It is time for these elected officials to step up to the plate and cash the check

Dr. King spoke about. I believe that there are no bad kids but there are plenty of bad people who make kids bad.

“All the Church wants to do is to have a place that the kids can go after school and receive something to eat and help with their homework - a place where they can play a little pool, chess and other things that would keep them off the street.

“We are a small Church trying to do a big job! Our dining area only holds about 20 people, so we can only do but so much. We have not lost hope and we do believe that the Lord will make a way!

Second Union will continue to work hard in the community to make a change.”

Mobile Clinic In SW Fridays

A parent who doesn't have a regular doctor can bring a sick child to Georgetown University Hospital's "Doctor's Office on Wheels" parked every Friday from 10 am to 4 pm at MLK Recreation park, N St. & Canal St. S.W. Appointments are not necessary except for a checkup or shots. Get an appointment at the mobile clinic or by calling

444-8888 between 8 am and 4:30 pm Mon. thru Fri. For advice for after hour or weekend emergencies, call GU Hospital at 444-7243 and ask for the pediatrician on call for the clinic.

The mobile clinic moves to Capitol Hill on Mondays, Spingarn High in NE on Tuesdays, and at the Capper Multipurpose Center, 1000 5th St. S.E. on Wednesdays.

Navy Museum Re-opens Weekends

After two years of being closed on weekends for security reasons, the Navy Museum is now open to the public on weekends and federal holidays for those persons who phone in their reservations by noon on Friday.

Visitors during the week as well as for weekends call 202-433-6897 for access to the Navy Yard and enter at the 6th and M St. SE Gate. Photo ID is required for entry onto the Navy Yard.

The museum is free and is open until 5 pm. It opens at 9 am during the week and at 10 am on weekends. Hours will change after Labor Day.

Free concerts by the US Navy Band are sometimes held at the museum - such as the Thurs. Mar. 25 concert of "Country Current," at 7 pm.

Going aboard the display ship Barry (DD-933) docked near the museum is a chance to see inside a real US Navy ship. Students can pick up copies of fliers, such as "The Black Presence in the United States Navy."

Tues. Apr. 6, when schools are closed for Easter holiday, is billed as Spring Break Family Day at the museum, with maritime crafts and a museum scavenger hunt between 10 am and 2 pm.

Web site for the Navy Museum is www.history.navy.mil. The museum gift shop is 610-5051.



Display ship Barry DD933

Watkins Security Co. At WF Mall

By Carole Early

The owners of Waterfront Mall have retained Watkins Security Company.

Why Watkins? They are Special Police officers who have been licensed by the District and are at the site all hours of the day and night. It was felt that security at this mall had been weak and needed to be strengthened. Watkins works closely with the DC Police Department and has the authority to use mace, handcuffs, batons and to make arrests. They have been around the area for 20 years and have a good record.

The project manager of the mall is Captain Williams. One of the most visible of the officers is on the North side of the mall. His name is Officer Maxfield and is stationed near the steps on the I St. side. He greets and/or shoos away people who are entering the Mall.



Officer Maxfield of Watkins Security Company.

Is this Big Brother watching you or a return to being able to feel safe while carrying out your daily life?

Bowen Students Study T. Marshall

By Thelma Jones

Sixth graders at SW's Bowen ES are hearing prominent speakers on the life and work of the first African-American member of the US Supreme Court - the late Justice Thurgood Marshall, who once lived on G St. SW.

D.C. Superior Court Judge Arthur Burnett, Southwest resident Roger Wilkins, Thomasina Yearwood of the Thurgood Marshall Center, W. Paatii

Ofosu-Amaah of the World Bank., Lia Epperson of the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund and Justice Marshall's widow will meet with the students during the six week study.

Bowen Principal Almeta Hawkins and teachers Williams and Crumpler helped design the program, which is sponsored by the SW Youth Activities Task Force and the World Bank-IMF African American Association, with a grant from the DC Humanities Council.

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ON THE WATERFRONT

February has been an exceptionally slow month for peccadilloes, rumors and innuendos in Southwest. The aforementioned creatures seem to have taken to hibernating through the worst weather, or migrating to warmer climes. Perhaps the conservative climate here in the capital has got everybody practicing their worst behavior behind closed doors.

Boring Psycho?

Even a long night spent with 300 of Washington's most depraved avant-gardists at the Hirshhorn Museum during the "24 Hour Psycho" event on March 27th couldn't turn up much out of the ordinary. HMSG Cine-master and coordinator of the project, Kelly Gordon, who can usually be relied upon for gossip fodder, was looking dreadfully clear eyed and sober at the non-alcoholic event.

Smithsonian security squelched a plot to fast forward the excruciatingly slow Hitchcock movie featured in Douglas Gordon's video installation called "24 Hour Psycho", when the weapons search at the museum's front door turned up a concealed remote

control device for a DVD player. The plotters wanted to cut straight to famous slasher flick's gory shower scene. Better luck next time, guys.

The same miscreants are apparently planning to wreak havoc on the District of Columbia Commission on the Arts and Humanities' program to decorate the city's street corners with 150 artist painted fiberglass pandas, by planting loud but harmless explosive devices in some of the sculptures. They're calling their proposed installation "Panda-monium."

Homeland Security will not be amused, but it should add a certain element of uncertainty and tension, or even terror, to the proposed event, which always seemed a little too saccharine for our taste.

Mountain Moving to Mohammed?

On a more spiritual note, there is a rumor afoot that the old Redeemed Temple church building at Delaware and H, that once housed the Friendship Baptist congregation, is going to be moved to a nearby vacant site. I'll believe that miracle when I see it. ■

Preservation Along South Capitol St.

(Information supplied by Hayden Wetzel, D.C. Preservation League).

All old buildings in the James Creek-Buzzards Point-Navy Yard area along So. Capitol St. have been photographed by the D C Preservation League and their construction dates and original uses have been researched.

The aim is to see that historic preservation is given its due, not to hinder economic development in this part of town.

Anyone interested in helping a So. Capitol St. task force of residents and the preservationists should contact Hayden Wetzel (202-526-5986, haydenwetzel@hotmail.com). ■

D.C. Seeks Funds To Repair Bridges

D.C.'s Dept. of Transportation is asking Congress for \$300 million over the next six years to reconstruct or replace bridges, including the Frederick Douglass Bridge at So. Capitol St. and the 11th Street SE Bridge over the Anacostia River.

The Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill now being debated in Congress includes these funds. ■

Jenny's Opens Soon On Waterfront

Opening day at the new Jenny's Restaurant is soon upon us.

With a spectacular view of the Potomac Channel, yachts and sunsets, Jenny's new location near the Fish Wharf on the Maine Ave. SW Waterfront (where LeRivage used to be) will add ambience to the always popular menu.

Parking will be on meters or in Phillips above ground or underground lots. ■

Kiwanis Moves To Methodist Church

The first and third Monday meetings of the S.W. Waterfront chapter of Kiwanis will be held at Christ United Methodist Church at 4th and I (Eye) St. S.W. instead of S.E. University. The one-hour meetings are from 6:30pm to 7:30 pm. ■

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