

# The Corner Forum

for the 1200 and 1300 blocks of E, the 400 and 500 blocks of 13th,  
Duncan Place and Emerald Street NE

Issue #30  
Sunday, May 4, 2003  
37¢ + 2¢ D.C. sales tax  
<http://www.thecornerforum.org>

## Residents Share Their Thoughts on Excello

*The following comments were gathered on a survey for the Corner Forum by Stephen Smith, 1311 E St. NE. The survey asked: "Excello, the liquor store at 419 13th St. NE, has applied to renew its liquor license. What are your thoughts on Excello? Should its license be renewed? Why or why not?"*

I love Excello. It's great. I could do without the bulletproof glass making me feel like a criminal, but otherwise it's nice to have a place so close, so I don't have to haul everything back from 8th Street.

— Will Adam, 1309 E St. NE

Drug dealing is not an acceptable community standard. Neither is panhandling or stumbling drunks. How can the liquor store guarantee its participation in addressing these standards?

— Bill Ament, 515 13th St. NE

I moved here four years ago and have always wondered why there are two liquor stores side by side. I think it is horrible for the neighborhood. I feel bad that the owners may lose their business, but having the store there does nothing positive for the neighborhood. I wish they would build something else there and use the lot that is empty beside it, maybe for an activities center or something for the neighborhood kids. Last week's article by Patty White really disturbed me. I can't believe people hang out in front of her house and drink and litter. I have to pick up trash daily from my yard and I'm sick of it. Sometimes I have to walk up a different street because I don't want to walk by a bunch of drunk people. I hate that! I agree with Ms. Hoover: Maybe we could work with the police to help with the loi-

*Continued on page 4, column 1*

## New Agreement Needed For N-A Minit, Excello

BY CHAD PRIEST, 1213 DUNCAN PL. NE

I have been reading about Excello's liquor license renewal over the past two weeks in the Corner Forum. Today, I decided to visit the store, examine the property and speak with the owner.

First, I noticed signs on each of the refrigerator doors saying "NO SALES OF SINGLES ALLOWED" (or something like this). This is, of course, in direct contradiction to the picture on the front of the Corner Forum dated April 21, 2003. I spoke with the owner, who said:

1. He has a limited understanding of English,
2. He signed the neighborhood agreement not understanding the terms,
3. He has not sold singles in his store for over two years,
4. He is losing a lot of money not being able to sell singles, and
5. The N-A Minit store continues to sell singles to his business disadvantage.

Due to the owner's stated lack of English skills, I didn't discuss the other points of the neighborhood agreement he signed in December of 2001.

Next I visited the owner of the N-A Minit store and discussed the issue with her. Specifically, I asked her if she had any plans to stop selling singles in the future.

She said that she and the owner of Excello were "talking" and that something would be known soon.

I asked her if this meant she was going to stop selling singles and she said, "we'll talk tonight at the ANC meeting and then we are going to work on a deal between Excello and us."

I have two major concerns surrounding the renewal of Excello's license:



Photo by Richard Sundberg

## Youth Pastor at Wash. Community Fellowship

*Richard Sundberg (1200 block of Duncan Pl. NE) spoke Monday with Faith Fowler Evans, who has been youth pastor since 1999 at Washington Community Fellowship, 907 Maryland Ave. NE, the church he attends. Pastor Faith took part in the editing of this interview. The parts she edited are in brackets [ ].*

*Pastor Faith was born and raised in New Jersey, went to college at Pfeiffer University, in North Carolina, and came to D.C. to go to school at Wesley Theological Seminary, at 4500 Massachusetts Ave. NW, in the fall of 1995. She lives on campus with her husband, who is attending Wesley now.*

*While attending seminary, she also served as part-time youth pastor at Bethesda United Methodist Church. After noticing the drastic socioeconomic differences between her place of work, in Bethesda, and where she lived then, at 119 New York Ave. NW, only 10 miles away, she began once a month to bring together 10 kids from her neighborhood, and 10 kids from her youth group in Bethesda, to hang out with one another, and to have a conversation about the places they came from. After nine months, two of her friends joined her in the effort, and they formed a nonprofit called Building Bridges Youth Ministry...*

[Our mission was to bring youth from different backgrounds together, in the

*Continued on page 5*

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## ANC Licensing Committee To Consider Excello on May 14

BY JESSICA WARD, 1310 G St. NE  
ANC Commissioner (6A06) and chairman, ANC 6A  
Alcohol Beverage Licensing & Public Safety Committee

The Excello Liquors will be added as one of the first agenda items of the ANC6a's Alcohol Beverage Licensing & Public Safety Committee meeting. The ABL & PS Committee meets on the second Wednesday of the month (May 14th) at Miner ES from 7 to 9 p.m.

The licensee of N-A Minit has also been asked to attend and present their business plans. After the public discussion, I would suspect that many residents would like to protest the Excello license renewal. A petition will be collected with community names, addresses, phone numbers and date of signatures.

The D.C. Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration has investigated and talked with the licensee. Both parties are aware of the voluntary agreement violations.

It is my understanding that the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board will have Excello Liquors placed on their docket for a hearing in the near future. At the hearing, the findings of fact will be heard and the ABC Board may recommend for example, training of personnel, a monetary fine, or a suspension of their license.

I could be wrong, but I doubt the ABC license will be revoked for Excello Liquors. I realize the huge negative impact of quality of life issues that occurs near the location. However, without a serious crime, such as a shooting or a homicide at 419 13th St. NE, I believe the ABC Board would be hard pressed to close the business down.

In the mean time, please continue to call 311/911 to respond to 419 or 421 13th St. NE when one observes public drinking or suspicious activity to include the possible drug dealing. Give a complete description of individuals and activities so the Police will have to stop and confront the suspect if they see them.

The more police runs to document the negative impact on the community, the better case to take an ABC licensee up in front of the Board!

Finally, the Orange Hat Patrol has been started up again in your area. Contact Jeff Coulter (coulterndc@yahoo.com) for dates and locations to come out and walk the neighborhood with a PSA officer.

Also, Richard Sundberg is on the ABL & PS Committee and active with issues of the 400 block of 13th St. Please feel free to contact either of these ABL & PS Committee members. If there is anything I can further clarify please contact me: 396-3193, jward.anc@verizon.net. §

## Musante to Consider Excello May 12

BY MICHAEL MUSANTE, 411 11TH St. NE  
ANC Commissioner 6A05 (covers Excello area)

We'll have a single-member district meeting concerning N-A Minit and Excello on May 12, at 7 p.m., at the Washington Community Fellowship church, at 907 Maryland Ave. NE.

There will be a presentation made at the meeting concerning Excello and also N-A Minit.

My view is that Excello has been in violation of their voluntary license agreement, and I would strongly recommend that the community make their voices heard, and I will go with what the community would like to do.

I personally would like to fight and not see the license renewed, but we will see. §

## Corner Forum Acknowledgments

The following people helped produce or distribute the April 27 issue of the Corner Forum: Marc Borbely, 536 13th St. NE (editing, folding, distributing); Tammi Cioffi, 536 13th St. NE (proofreading, folding, distributing); Andrena and Gary Mason, New York City (folding, distributing); and Andrea Smith, 501 12th St. NE (folding). There are 68 households in the area that have subscribed to the Corner Forum (24 on Emerald Street, 23 on E Street, 15 on 13th Street, and six on Duncan Place). §

## Trash Gone from 1327 E St. Yard

The trash behind 1327 E Street is gone. It was described by Tim Sullivan, 431 13th St. NE, in an article on April 21, and it was still there last week. (—Marc Borbely) §

On April 25:



Yesterday:



# Neighbor News

## Catherine Clay Died Last Weekend

*Catherine Clay (1250 E St. NE) died in the early morning hours of Saturday, April 26.*

Her husband, the Rev. Randolph Clay, submitted the following verse.

*Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.*

*Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.*

*Know ye that the lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

*Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.*

*For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.*

— Psalms 100 §

Please send in your thoughts, and any memories of Mrs. Clay.

## Debbie Chewing Is Moving

BY DEBBIE CHEWNING, 1219 E ST. NE

*Marc Borbely asked Ms. Chewing why she is moving. Ms. Chewing wrote the following in response...*

In a nutshell, my reason for selling/moving is that I have decided I want to be near the rest of my family, all of whom live in the Seattle/Portland/NW Montana area. It has always been my long-term plan to move to that region “someday.” I have had my sister here for the last two years, but when she recently returned to Seattle, I decided that “someday” was now.

I have lived in D.C. since I graduated from college in 1981 (except for two years when my ex-husband and I lived in the NYC/New Jersey metro area). I have worked for both the government and private companies, and feel the need for new challenges at this point in my life. I perhaps would have stayed longer except for the way the city has changed since 9/11. The barricades and street closings and terror alert signs on the Beltway are things I can definitely live without.

I was lucky in having a good real estate agent (Bob Williams), a good housing market (Capitol Hill is so trendy now, don’t you know), and good timing (beginning of the spring house hunting season). All these things combined to move the house quickly at a good price, for which I am grateful.

I will certainly miss my little Victorian “house on the Hill,” which I love dearly, and all the good friends and neighbors I have had the opportunity to get to know. Endings are sad, which is true, but they say that each end of something old is the beginning of something new. So while I leave my home here with some regret, I look forward to a new home, new friends, and a new job (when I decide on one) in a new city. And maybe a little adventure too! §

## More Missing Mail

*Jim Laise (1248 E St. NE) wrote on March 9 that he had not received mail confirmed to be sent as far back as Jan. 21, and he asked if anyone else could confirm such a situation.*

BY SHARON COCHRAN, 1300 BLOCK OF EMERALD STREET NE

We are missing two important pieces of mail, which were mailed March 21 and March 22. One of them is an income tax refund, and the other was a credit card. [It’s not a case of identity theft, because the credit card was never used]. I’m sort of curious if there’s a pattern. If there is, maybe we need to complain. We’ve had a lot of substitute mail carriers, and I’m wondering if there’s a bag of mail somewhere. §

## No Permanent Letter Carrier For at Least a Year, on 1200 of E

BY MARC BORBELY, 536 13TH ST. NE

*I asked Carol Larson, spokesperson for the U.S. Postal Service, to update us on the status of the letter carrier on the 1200 block of E Street NE. Jim Laise (1248 E St. NE) wrote in an article on March 9 that his block has no permanent letter carrier, and he wrote that he receives mail normally after 5 p.m.*

Ms. Larson said, in a telephone conversation: “We periodically do what we call route inspections, where we evaluate every carrier’s route, and because of certain new businesses coming in, routes tend to increase or decrease [in size]. Our aim is that every carrier has an eight-hour route. When the route inspection [for your area] was done in March, there was a two-hour segment of a route that [was left over].

“We would not hire someone for a career position for a two-hour segment. We call that an auxiliary route. So this particular area is served by a temporary carrier, and what it means is that there is no definite time of the day when the mail is delivered. I asked the station manager, ‘Have you had any complaints from customers.’ He said no, but if he gets complaints, he can attempt to have the mail delivered closer to the same time every day. However, we can’t promise that, because it’s a different person that would be delivering it [every day].

“It’s a temporary or a casual employee [who has other assignments throughout the day]. He said he would try, if this is a problem for a lot of the residents, to get the mail delivered either earlier in the day — but it would not be a regular six-day-a-week, same time [thing].

“[Residents with concerns] could address them to the [V Street Annex] station manager, Mr. Payne, at 523-2108.

“It’s going to take a while for this route to grow, to be assigned to either a carrier who would have this route, or that this would be added in a future route adjustment to another route. This will probably be for at least a year or so.

“We try to deliver all mail by 6 p.m. or sooner. The very latest should be 6 p.m.” §

*(continued from page 1, column 1)*

tering problem. Maybe we could have a neighborhood meeting to discuss our concerns and share ideas.

— Tammi Cioffi, 536 13th St. NE

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Both stores should help clean up the litter on both sides of the street for the entire block.

— Sharon Cochran, 1300 block of Emerald

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[I agree with someone who wrote] They have failed to comply with the terms of their voluntary agreement with the neighborhood, and their business contributes to loitering and trash problems which plague our neighborhood.

— Zdenek V. David, 517 13th St. NE

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Work with police to eliminate loitering and drug dealing.

— Rebecca E. Hoover, 513 13th St. NE

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It seems to me that we could push the police to enforce the 1996 anti-loitering law to get the people to stop congregating outside of Excello. We should band together as a community to stop this nuisance.

— David Kinsey, 52413th St. NE, Apt. A

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If they could keep people from hanging out and drinking in front and next to their property, I'd be in favor.

— Nancee Lyons

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If they would comply with promises they made in the past to stop selling singles, and if N-A Minit would stop selling singles, it certainly would help their image in the neighborhood. They must know many people don't want their license renewed and there will always be a push to deny their renewal. I like to promote local business but personally would not be affected if their license was not renewed. I don't like the litter or loitering around the store, and if they want to continue a fruitful business, perhaps they could work with the neighborhood to improve the image of their establishment (maybe attending the local meetings? Just a thought).

— Lisa Olson, 1214 E St. NE

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I've never experienced a problem in front of Excello related to the sale of liquor. Thus, I don't have a problem with renewing the license. Any problems in front of Excello are not liquor-related, it seems to me.

— Jack Preis, 1310 E St. NE §

*(continued from page 1, column 2)*

1. It is clear that Excello has recently taped up 12-pack containers of beer that were previously split open to sell singles (as evidenced by your photo on April 21, 2003). This appears to me to be in clear violation of the agreement reached with the neighborhood in December 2001. What is worse is that they are apparently making hasty arrangements in the store to hide the fact that they were selling singles very recently. This apparent attempt at covering up their sales of beer is disturbing and makes it difficult to believe that they will continue to honor the agreement in the future.

2. While Excello may be in violation of their agreement, it is also apparent that a contributing factor to the many concerns voiced by other residents regarding public urination, loitering and property damage is the sale of single beer products by N-A Minit. The selection of malt beverages, single bottles of beer, etc., at N-A Minit is extensive and, according to the owner in a discussion on April 28, 2003, N-A Minit makes most of its alcohol profit "by selling singles." According to the owner, the profit on a six-pack is only "fifty cents to a dollar," versus "much more" on singles. When asked if N-A Minit would consider stopping sales of its single beers, the owner dodged the question and instead alluded to some "agreement" that was on the horizon between Excello and N-A Minit.

It seems that if the goal is to reduce loitering, public urination, littering and property damage caused by the sale of singles, we must also consider that N-A Minit is selling the same products. In fact, based on my cursory review of the stores on April 28, N-A Minit offers a much larger variety of these products.

One solution to address this problem is to renegotiate a new neighborhood agreement with both Excello and N-A Minit. This agreement could seek to ameliorate some of the concerns in the neighborhood while respecting the need for these businesses to remain profitable.

For example, a phaseout of sales of all single beers might be one item that could be addressed. Failure to reach an acceptable agreement with the parties might result in negotiation with Excello alone, as its permit is up for renewal.

Of course, failure to reach any agreement might be an excellent justification for an official challenge to Excello's beverage permit. Hopefully this challenge would send a strong message to N-A Minit that this neighborhood is serious about reducing the problems associated with sales of beer of this type.

I am not so naive as to think that elimination of single beer sales will solve all the problems in our neighborhood. Persistent dumping in our alleys and the flagrant sales of drugs on our street corners will require a concerted effort from the community and a serious commitment by the MPD to patrol this area. This being said, our neighborhood can only assert itself one step at a time, and the license renewal of Excello provides an excellent opportunity to talk about these issues as a community.

It is my recommendation that Excello, N-A Minit and interested residents meet immediately to discuss the possibility of drafting a new neighborhood agreement that will apply to both stores. If the parties do not wish to do this, it is my intention to join any other resident in an official challenge to Excello's permit now, and N-A Minit's permit when it is up for renewal.

Anyone that would like to discuss this issue, or who may have additional information that I do not have, should feel free to email me at cpriest@law.gwu.edu. §

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name of Jesus Christ, to work toward racial reconciliation and transformational relationships. Each of the 20 or so youth would commit to meeting twice a month for a total of nine months. At this point, I stepped down from my position at Bethesda United Methodist Church and began working on Building Bridges full time.]

**So how long were you involved with Building Bridges?**

I was involved with Building Bridges Youth Ministry, as a nonprofit, for about two and a half years. I found out about Washington Community Fellowship because the pastor at the time, Dennis Edwards, heard about [us] and sent his son, Jon, [to join the ministry]. Pastor Edwards was so enthused about what we were doing that when a position came open at his church for a youth pastor, he [asked me to consider taking the position. He was interested in seeing me do the Building Bridges program] in his church. After much deliberation, I chose to do that, and for a while tried to juggle the nonprofit as well as do my work here, and then eventually just folded the mission of [Building Bridges into my ministry] here at WCF.

**And as youth pastor here, what exactly is your function? What are your goals?**

It is my job to be a pastor to kids in grades 7 through 12. So for example, most churches have a pastor that is in charge of the spiritual health and well-being of adults. Well, my job here is to focus on a particular group, which happens to be 7th through 12th graders. [This includes youth who go to our church on a regular basis as well as youth that I have built] relationships with in the community. The vision of Building Bridges still exists here because [this vision exists in me. We currently have a very multicultural group. Even with all this, I must say that my ultimate goal as youth pastor at WCF is to introduce youth] who don't already know Jesus to the person of Jesus Christ, and to help them to understand how he can transform their lives.

**And what do you find as your biggest challenge?**

Probably the discipline. We have about 20 regulars who will show up at just about everything we do, and then there's about 20 more that I have relationships with, who don't always come to our programs but will come to just hang out or talk. But for the ones that come to the programs we offer, the biggest issue is discipline because the kids come from such different backgrounds. Every kid grows up with different standards [and expectations put on them] by their parents, or grandparents, or aunts or uncles, whoever's raising them. [So then we take all these kids and introduce them to *our* discipline policy. We expect the youth to abide by the] discipline policy even if it's a little stricter than they're used to. Usually, what we call them to is a little bit stricter than what they have at home. So [one of the biggest challenges for all the adults who minister to our youth is being consistent. We want to be consistent in our disciplinary actions as well as being inviting and welcoming to youth, and that can get tricky. It pains us to have to ask a youth to leave an event, or take a break from an activity because of an attitude or behavior problem, because we know what they need the most, and what we do our best to offer, is a

safe and] loving community. But for the sake of the whole group, we do need to enforce our discipline policy, and for some [youth that means asking them to leave].

**Turning that around a little bit, what do you think the kids you come in contact with — what's their biggest challenge, in coming here?**

We have kids who come from two-parent homes, who have been raised in the church, and come from pretty healthy backgrounds, and then we have kids who aren't being raised by either biological parent at all, who didn't grow up in the church, didn't really experience love of any kind — really unhealthy — and then we have everything in the middle. So when we meet here, on Tuesday nights and on Sunday mornings, we have a very diverse group of kids, not only ethnically but also in life experience.

The one thing I see in common in the kids, no matter what color their skin might be, or where they live is: They all want to be loved and accepted, but because we live in such a cruel world, and because being a junior and senior high kid is so difficult, they've learned that to be themselves, to be vulnerable, isn't okay. But the kids that stick around here, that have chosen to be part of the community — we see walls come down. And across the board, these kids just want to be loved and accepted, no matter where they come from or what they look like. That's really, I believe, the root issue, and depending on what each kid has access to, what each kid has experienced, that root of wanting to be loved will act itself out in different ways. Whether they're trying to mask that loneliness and fear of rejection with alcohol or drugs or sex or food or watching TV 24 hours a day or listening to the radio so they're never alone with their [thoughts, it's all the same root. Everybody is trying to mask their loneliness and numb the desire to be loved for fear that it will never happen.]

**Is there anything that you'd like to say to the kids that will be seeing this newsletter, in the neighborhood?**

I would just say that this is a place where we do our very best to create an atmosphere that is a loving and safe place where you can begin to take your masks off and get to know yourself, others, and God. I know that some of you have so many masks that it will not be easy. But we are here, and we want to walk alongside you as you begin this process. [We will love you for who you really are, as well as love you enough to tell you the truth about things that might need to change in your life. Please remember that you are not alone. The pain and loneliness that you feel inside is felt by everyone at different levels. Some people will never admit it, but I want you to know that when you admit it and face your pain, God will meet you in that place and will transform all of your pain into something good. I know it's hard to believe, but it is true. Come and meet us. We meet on Tuesday nights at 6:30 for dinner, followed by other activities. God loves you so much, and we would like the chance to be his hands, feet, and arms that would allow you to experience the reality of that love. You are really loved — all the time! Please believe that and let us help you to experience that truth.]

**I thank you very much, Faith, for speaking to us. §**

## Park at 11th & Md. To Be Reconstructed

BY SHANNON MICAH SALB  
1300 block of G Street NE

As many of you know, the National Park Service (NPS) announced last fall that it would be reconstructing the park at Maryland Avenue and 11th Street NE. The planning was finished at the time of the announcement. (This was a source of disappointment for many people, who felt that it would have been proper for the park to collaborate more with the community members who would actually be using the park.) The NPS stated that it was too late to begin construction before the onset of winter, but that work would begin as soon as possible in the spring.

Since I didn't see any activity, I contacted the NPS. Frank Young advised me that there were funding related delays, but that the equipment will be ordered on May 1 and that site preparation beginning early- to mid-June.

The actual construction time is to be 60 to 90 days, closing the project in late August or early September.

Obviously, this timetable is very disappointing. The work could have been done April to June, making the park available during the summer and fall. However, it is still very exciting and it is great that the NPS will be doing the project. §

## Street Scenes



Chester W. Hunter, 1310 Emerald St. NE, laid these new white bricks around the tree outside his house last weekend. §

Stephen Smith, 1311 E St.



Debra Wynn, 538 13th St. NE, returned home one day last week and found that there were now *three* flamingos — two big ones and one small one — in her front yard. The last time she had looked, there were only the two big ones. “Where did the third flamingo come from?” she asks. Does anyone know? §

## Police Use Tear Gas At 220 14th St. NE

BY MARC BORBELY, 536 13TH ST. NE

Sharon Cochran, 1300 block of Emerald Street NE, reported that around 6:30 or 7 p.m. on Friday, she learned the following from her police scanner: There was an incident taking place at 220 14th St. NE. A female police officer asked, on the radio, if the person who had called the incident in had left a callback number. The dispatcher said the lady was calling, but the police couldn't understand anything she was saying. Another officer came on the radio and said, “He's in the basement.” The police decided to clear the block. The police took two women to the Fifth District station. The police said they had to call ERT to set up barricades, and they were planning to set up a command center at 19th and C. Ms. Cochran also said a helicopter was flying over the area for many, many hours, on Friday evening.

Another neighbor, on 14th Street, said yesterday that he heard from police that a man was holding his wife hostage.

Early yesterday afternoon, at Tennessee Avenue and C Street NE, there were five police cars, two police vans, two fire trucks and one fire battalion chief's car. There were at least nine more police cars on C, between Tennessee and 14th Street NE. Many of the streets in the area were blocked off.

Will Scheltema, of the 100 block of 15th St. NE, reported that yesterday evening, the police “lobbed some tear gas in. They backed everybody off two blocks before they did it, and then swooped the guy away.” §

## Face Painting, and Easter Egg Stealing

*Brandon Jackson, 1309 Emerald St. NE, described his experiences at the Second Annual Easter Eggstravaganza for Kids and Families, at Lincoln Park, on April 19. He was speaking with Marc Borbely.*



We had to pick them up, and there was candy and a little gift certificate inside. It said “Winner,” and you'd go over to the table and get your prize. And you could get your face painted, and you win prizes when you play games. My favorite part was when I stole 40 eggs from a boy. **You did?** Yeah! Because they all fell out of his thing, and I picked them up and put them in this pocket. **You put them in your pocket? Was the boy upset?** No. He didn't know. **What did you do with the eggs? You still have them?** No! I won a prize from them. **What kind of prizes did you get?** Oh, I got me a football, and lots. Candies. A football training card.



Sharon Cochran, Emerald

Yesterday: C St. and Tennessee

# Calendar of Upcoming Events

*If you attend any of these events, please send in anything from a few lines to a long article about what happened. And if you know of any upcoming events that other readers might be interested in, send them in! Events are free, unless otherwise noted, and open to all.*

— COMPILED BY MARC BORBELY  
536 13th St. NE

## **Monday, May 5**

4 p.m. Antz (83 minutes). Film. At Northeast Branch Library, Children's Room, 330 7th St. NE. Info, Michelle Jackson, 698-3299, <http://dclibrary.org/branches/noe>.

6:30 - 7 p.m. Parent Informational Meeting Regarding School Vouchers. "To ensure that D.C. parents have a voice as to whether or not they have a choice in where to educate their children. ... Come out and raise your voice to let us know where you stand." By Washington, D.C., Chapter of the Black Alliance for Educational Options. At Francis A. Gregory Library, 3660 Alabama Ave. SE. Info, Virginia Walden-Ford, 518-0281.

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. D.C. Water and Sewer Authority Community Meeting. "Discuss capital and service improvements, and proposed rate increases." At Washington Center for Aging Services, 2601 18th St. NE. For info or to testify, call 787-2330. [http://www.dcwasa.com/news/listings/press\\_release78.cfm](http://www.dcwasa.com/news/listings/press_release78.cfm).

7-9 p.m. Public Interest Civic Association Meeting. Monthly Meeting. At Calvary Episcopal Church, 800 6th St. NE.

## **Tuesday, May 6**

3:45 p.m. Card Games for Children: Uno, Fish, Old Maid. At Northeast Branch Library, Children's Room, 330 7th St. NE. Info, Michelle Jackson, 698-3299, <http://dclibrary.org/branches/noe>.

5:30 p.m. Community Rally and Call to Action. "D.C. Residents Don't Want School Vouchers, yet Congress is trying to impose vouchers on D.C., using public money!" At Freedom Plaza, 13th and Pennsylvania Avenue NW. By the Coalition for Accountable Public Schools, 518-3667 or [rally@stopdcvouchers.com](mailto:rally@stopdcvouchers.com).

7 p.m. The Police Service Area System. "The Metropolitan Police Department ... is holding a series of community meetings in all seven police districts to get residents' comments and suggestions on improving the Department's Police Service Area (PSA) system." At First District Station, 415 4th St. SW. Info, MPDC's Office of Policing for Prevention, 727-2900. <http://www.mpdcc.gov/news/news.asp?id=2050>.

7:30 p.m. North Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association meeting. At Lane Memorial CME Church, 14th and C NE.

## **Wednesday, May 7**

3:30 p.m. Boys Softball. Browne Junior High vs. Jefferson Junior High, at Jefferson, 801 7th St. SW, 724-4881; and Eliot Junior High vs. Francis Junior High, at Eliot, 1830 Constitution Ave. NE, 673-8666.

*Continued on page 8*

## **D.C. Water, Sewer Authority Meetings**

BY DEBRA WYNN, 538 13TH ST. NE

I saw this in Thursday's Washington Post. The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority will be hosting meetings (two were already held on April 22 and April 23) where community members are invited to discuss their concerns about capital and service improvements and proposed rate increases.

The next meetings are tomorrow (Monday) and Wednesday, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. (See Calendar for details.) A public hearing will also be held on May 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 777 North Capitol St. NE. For information or to testify, you are asked to please call 787-2330. §

## **Hot Blueberry Pancakes Offered At Next Corner Forum Meeting**

The next Corner Forum meeting, on Saturday at 10 a.m., will be a little closer to home, in the hopes that more people will show up. Your help is needed to discuss ideas for future articles. Instead of being at the library, the meeting will be at Marc Borbely and Tammi Cioffi's house, at 536 13th St. NE. Yummy, hot blueberry pancakes and juice for everyone who comes! §

## **Updates**

**HOUSES FOR SALE:** If you have met one of the area's new residents or know someone about to move out, please ask them if they'd like to introduce themselves or say goodbye. According to the Long & Foster Web site, <http://www.longandfoster.com>, viewed yesterday, the real estate listings for the Corner Forum area have changed from two weeks ago as follows... One house is newly listed: 1368 Emerald St. NE (\$315,000). Four listings no longer appear: 1302 E St. NE; 1386 E St. NE, which had been up for auction by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; 1227 Duncan Place NE; and 1364 Emerald St. NE. The other listing from two weeks ago is unchanged: 408 13th St. NE (\$412,000). (—Marc Borbely, 536 13th St. NE) §

**NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP:** Karen Ostlie, 1300 block of E Street NE, also participated in the neighborhood cleanup on April 19. §

# Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)

*(continued from page 7)*

3:30 p.m. DCIAA East/West Middle School and Junior High School Outdoor Track Championships. At Eastern High School, 1700 East Capitol St. NE, 698-4500.

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. D.C. Water and Sewer Authority Community Meeting. "Discuss capital and service improvements, and proposed rate increases." At Southwest Library, 920 Wesley Pl. SW. For info or to testify, call 787-2330. [http://www.dcwasa.com/news/listings/press\\_release78.cfm](http://www.dcwasa.com/news/listings/press_release78.cfm).

7-8:30 p.m. Show Me the Money: Financing D.C.'s Transportation System. "Transportation decision makers will come together ... to answer your questions about transportation needs that should and can be funded over the next five to 10 years." With Council members Phil Mendelson (At Large) and Jim Graham (Ward 1), and Dan Tangherlini, director, District Department of Transportation. At Martin Luther King Memorial Library, Room A5, 901 G St. NW (Metro: Gallery Place). Info, John Swanson, Council of Governments, 962-3295 or [jswanson@mwclg.org](mailto:jswanson@mwclg.org).

## **Thursday, May 8**

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Older Americans Month Kickoff. "The D.C. Office on Aging and the Senior Service Network will sponsor an information fair where D.C. government employees and visitors can get info about senior programs and services." At One Judiciary Square Building, 441 4th St. NW, first floor lobby and auditorium. Info, D.C. Office on Aging, 724-5626.

11:15 a.m. - 2 p.m. Legal Fair for the Elderly. By AARP Legal Counsel for the Elderly. "Receive free legal advice, information and direct service for landlord/tenant issues; obtaining affordable prescriptions; public benefits check-ups; resolving nursing home problems; powers of attorney and wills. We will have lawyers and trained volunteers help you with your legal issues." At Brookland Manor Senior Center, 2325 14th St. NE. Call Mrs. Elliot, 529-6529, to register.

3:30 p.m. Boys Softball. Eliot Junior High vs. Browne Junior High, at Rosedale Recreation Center, 17th and Gales streets NE, 727-5434.

7-9 p.m. ANC 6A Monthly Meeting. Preliminary agenda includes a discussion of a proposed Police Service Area redistricting; discussion of consolidating Police Service Area meetings with the ANC 6A Alcoholic Beverage and Licensing & Public Safety Committee meetings; and a proposed nomination for Fifth Police District Citizen of the Quarter for Marc Borbely, 536 13th St. NE. At Miner Elementary School, Student Dining Room, 600 16th St. NE. Info, ANC 6A Chairman Joseph Fengler (6A02), 423-8868. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/anc6a>.

## **Friday, May 9**

3:30 p.m. Grand Opening of the New City Museum. "Join the mayor at a ceremonial blessing of the grounds for the new City Museum of Washington, D.C., at Mount Vernon Square. The

event will underscore the contribution of indigenous people to the history of Washington. ... The official ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony will be held on May 15. The museum will open on May 16." At City Museum, 801 K St. NW. Info, Historical Society of Washington D.C., 785-2068. <http://www.hswdc.org>.

## **Saturday, May 10**

8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Crime Forum II: Building Partnerships for Safe Neighborhoods. "Crime Forum II will feature an interactive town hall meeting with [Mayor Anthony Williams and] Chief Ramsey on community programs that empower citizens to help reduce crime." At Scripture Cathedral, 810 O St. NW (Metro: Mt. Vernon Square). Info, Office of Community Outreach, 442-8150. <http://dc.gov/events/index.shtm>.

10 a.m. Corner Forum weekly meeting. "Your help is needed to discuss ideas for future articles. Yummy, hot blueberry pancakes and juice for everyone who comes!" At 536 13th St. NE, 544-2447.

10:30 a.m. Learn to Cultivate and Cook with Healthful Herbs. By Fannie Hamilton, master gardener. At Northeast Branch Library, 330 7th St. NE, 698-3320, <http://dclibrary.org/branches/noe>.

## **Ongoing**

Thief River. May 10 - June 7. Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. "The effects of choices and regrets on the lifelong and largely unexpressed love between two men from a Minnesota farming community. Thief River reveals the impact of their relationship on their own lives and on their families from the 1950's to the turn of the 21st Century." By the Theater Alliance. Tickets normally \$20; free if you live between 8th Street and 19th Street NE, between C and M streets NE. (Pick up free tickets at least 30 minutes before the show). At H Street Playhouse, 1365 H St. NE. 800-494-8497 or 396-2125 or <http://www.theateralliance.com/Season.htm>.

Every Thursday and Saturday, 6 a.m. - 5 p.m. D.C. Open Air Farmers Market and the New Horizons Flea Market Spring to Life. "Springtime means that the popular D.C. Open Air Farmers Market, held in RFK's Lot 6 at the corner of Oklahoma and Benning Roads, will be in full bloom. The popular markets [features] fruits, vegetables and other items from local farmers and a variety of eye-catching crafts, antiques, furniture, apparel and other merchandise." Free admission and parking.

May 10, and second Saturday of every month, 10 a.m. - noon. Free Legal Advice Clinic. By the D.C. Bar Pro Bono Program. "If you have a civil legal matter governed by D.C. law, you can meet in private with an attorney to discuss your legal problem. ... Please bring all of the documents." At two locations: Bread for the City, 1525 7th St. NW and Max Robinson Center, 2301 MLK Jr. Ave. SE. Info, Ronald Baynes, 737-4700 ext. 292. [http://www.dcbar.org/for\\_the\\_public/finding\\_a\\_lawyer/advice.cfm](http://www.dcbar.org/for_the_public/finding_a_lawyer/advice.cfm). §

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Contact the Corner Forum: ph. (544-2447); voicemail (517-9128); e-mail ([news@thecornerforum.org](mailto:news@thecornerforum.org)); mail (536 13th St. NE).