

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 #43
Sunday, Aug. 17, 2003
37¢ + 2¢ D.C. sales tax
<http://www.thecornerforum.org>

Enoch G. Gray III, 1924-2003

Mr. Gray, 79, who lived at 523 13th St. NE for more than 50 years, died of prostate cancer on Tuesday morning at Washington Hospital Center.

His funeral will be tomorrow (viewing 10:30 -11:30 a.m., service at 11:30, at Henry S. Washington & Sons, 4925 Nannie H. Burroughs Ave. NE, 398-6700). Interment will be at Quantico National Cemetery, after the service.



According to Mr. Gray's military papers, provided by his friend Dorothy Coble, Mr. Gray received his diploma from Dunbar High School in 1942.

He entered the Army on April 10, 1943, at Fort Myer, Va. He left for India on December 19, 1944, and arrived on January 23, 1945. He left for the United States on Feb. 17, 1946, and arrived back on March 15, 1946. He was honorably discharged on March 21, 1946, at Fort George Meade, Md.

He was a Technician Fourth Grade with the 1359th Engineer Duck Truck Company, and served 15 months as a clerk-typist in the China-Burma-India theater of operations. His listed duties: "Entered permanent items dealing with personnel on service records. Typed grievances of men in presentable form to forward to higher offices. Files all army rules and regulations received. Typed correspondence and prepared reports as directed."

Battles and campaigns listed: "Central Burma." He received a Good Conduct Medal, an American

Theater Ribbon, an Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon, and a World War II Victory Ribbon.

The following comments are from friends and neighbors. If you have a comment you would like to add, please send it in.

On Tuesday, my former neighbor Marc called with the news of Enoch Gray's passing. Mr. Gray, whose nickname "The EGGMAN"

was featured on the license plate of every car he ever owned, lived in our neighborhood for close to sixty years.

I last saw him in the spring, still dapper and quick, when he walked me up Thirteenth Street, pointing out the new construction atop where the community garden had been. I knew him as someone who had lived through a world war and a society compartmentalized by racism, a man who was street-wise but not so hardened as to be unable to share his wisdom.

Although nearly eighty, Mr. Gray pretty much lived as he had for decades. He fished off charter boats in the Chesapeake Bay. He delighted in his car. He both griped and gushed over his dog, Ruff, long even after Ruff died. He was as excited as a kid when showing off the latest gadget he had purchased. My particular favorite was his talking watch. He was known to brew enough dandelion wine to last through the summer.

He looked out for the neighbors and helped them in little but enormously caring ways. He was the one who cheerfully collected packages

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Man, 23, Found Killed On 300 Block of 13th St.

BY LIBO LIU, 500 BLOCK OF 14TH ST. NE

It was a deadly string of violence taking place in the District late Wednesday night and early Thursday morning, killing one person and injuring 13 others in five apparently unrelated incidents.

The sole homicide occurred right in our neighborhood.

In the wee hours of Thursday morning, someone heard one gunshot on the 300 block of 13 Street NE and called 911. Police responded at approximately 2:15 a.m. and found a body lying by an alley alongside 309 13th St. NE.

[There is a bloodstain on the side-

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N-A Minit Should Not Be Able to Sell Singles

Stephen Whitfield, 1323 E St. NE, spoke with Marc Borbely, 536 13th St. NE, about his views on the sale of single-serving containers of beer at N-A Minit. Mrs. Lee, one of N-A Minit's two owners, declined to respond to Mr. Whitfield's comments but said she might decide to speak publicly at a later date.

Mr. Whitfield: Excello is not selling single bottles, but I see it every day in N-A-Minit. Everybody trusts N-A Minit, and they think that they're the good guy on the block. N-A Minit is the culprit. Excello is not the culprit. I've been around here eight years.

N-A Minit is selling the singles. Excello does not sell singles. Or at least, if you go in there, you can't buy a 40-ounce, you can't buy a 32-ounce, you can't buy a single beer — you've gotta

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buy a six-pack. That's the way it was when I lived in Pittsburgh. You had to buy a case. I think that Excello is taking the rap for everything that goes on around here, simply because they got the name up there that says "Liquor Store."

Mr. Borbely: From your point of view, is the whole singles thing important? Does it make a difference in the neighborhood?

Only trash-wise, and people hanging out. I've seen guys defecating or urinating in the alley. I mean, I come home every day — I see it every day. I lived in Pittsburgh, okay? And if you ever lived in Pennsylvania, the only place you can buy a six-pack is in a bar. If you're gonna go out to a retail, you've got to buy a case. They will not sell you a single; they will not sell you a six-pack. You've got to go to a bar.

I didn't know that! So you can't buy a single.

In Pennsylvania? You can go in a bar, but you can't buy one to take out into the street. It's a commonwealth, just like Virginia. If you're gonna go to a distributor — at that time I was drinking Rolling Rock — you have to buy a case.

Ask me if I got a problem with it? 32 ounces, 20 ounces, promotes the thing that everybody's talking about. Because you've got a guy with 32 ounces come out here, he's got five dollars for drugs, and a dollar for a beer. My problem — is, after reading your paper, I think N-A Minit is getting away with murder.

And for them to assume Excello's license — I think the situation is gonna get worse, if N-A-Minit [buys] their license. If people think that because N-A Minit is taking it over, it's gonna be a good deal, [they're wrong] — it's gonna be the same thing. You want to end the problem? End it. Right then, right there.

How?

No singles. For anybody. In 6A, 6B, whatever this is — no singles. Don't give them the option.

One of N-A-Minit's arguments is that they can't survive as a business if they don't sell singles.

Now what does that tell you? If they can't survive as a business without selling singles, and they're a grocery market, what does that tell you? It's not a grocery market, is it?! If they sell food in there, and they tell you they can't survive without selling singles, what does that tell you? What does their business live on? Selling singles. If it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck, it's a duck. The ultimate goal is to shut down the liquor store. If that's not gonna be done, then what's the purpose? §

Updates

EXCELLO LICENSE RENEWAL: ANC Commissioner Michael Musante (6A05) and I met with the owners of Excello and N-A Minit on Monday at the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration offices, along with an ABRA mediator. Excello owner Sung Bang and his attorney, Simon Osnos, responded to various provisions that protestants are asking be added to the store's current voluntary agreement. Excello said it would agree to 1) clarify that beer must be sold in packages of four or more (the agreement currently says the store may not "sell single serving containers of alcoholic beverages"); 2) establish a specific time in the morning, before Excello opens when someone from Excello will clean the 400 block of 13th up to the alley next to the store; 3) donate a few hundred dollars, as a one-time gift, for neighborhood-watch equipment; 4) possibly donate somewhere around \$200 a month to an alcoholism rehabilitation program of the community's choice; and 5) offer and provide receipts for each sale of an alcoholic beverage. The protestants will be deciding over the next few weeks whether to accept these offers. If no new agreement can be reached by Sept. 24, a protest hearing will be scheduled sometime after that. At such a hearing, both sides present their cases to the Board, and the Board decides whether or not the license should be renewed.

EXCELLO LICENSE TRANSFER: Mrs. Lee, owner of N-A Minit, and Mr. Pascal, her attorney, said Monday that an application will be filed within a few weeks to transfer Excello's liquor license next door to N-A Minit. Excello owner Sung Bang and his attorney, Simon Osnos, said Excello is planning to sell both its building and its license to Mr. and Mrs. Lee, the owners of N-A Minit. Once the transfer is complete, N-A Minit intends to close Excello and lease out the space to a noncompeting business. N-A Minit would put its current class B (beer and light wines) license in safekeeping and begin using Excello's class A (alcoholic beverages, spirits, beer, wines and light wines) license. In addition, N-A Minit will be arguing to the city that because there will be only one store on the block selling alcohol, the city should amend Excello's voluntary agreement to allow the sale of any singles except 32-ounce and 40-ounce containers. (Excello's voluntary agreement prohibits it from selling any singles; by law, voluntary agreements are attached to a liquor license and get transferred along with the liquor license.) N-A Minit is asking that Excello's street-cleaning requirement be changed to omit reference to cleaning Duncan Place. Also, N-A Minit said any significant provisions added to Excello's voluntary agreement this year would have to be removed. Once the application for the transfer is in, the stores will be putting up placards notifying residents that they have 45 days to send letters to the city protesting the transfer. Mr. Pascal said the whole transfer transaction between Excello and N-A Minit is contingent on Excello's voluntary agreement being amended.

CORNER FORUM ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: The following people helped produce or distribute the Aug. 10 issue of the Corner Forum: Marc Borbely, 536 13th St. NE (editing, folding, distributing); Tammi Cioffi, 536 13th St. NE (folding); Sharon Cochran (photo of Theiel Jackson, 1309 Emerald St. NE); and Dustin Piccolo, 524 13th St. NE (production). There are 69 households in the Corner Forum area that are subscribed to the newsletter (25 on E Street, 22 on Emerald Street, 17 on 13th Street, and 5 on Duncan Place).

COMINGS AND GOINGS: According to the Long & Foster Web site, viewed Friday, the real estate listings for the Corner Forum area are the same as reported in last week's issue.

— MARC BORBELY, 536 13TH ST. NE§

Goods and Services

As I was reading the latest issue of the Corner Forum, I noticed that Ms. Betty Taylor is looking for an electrician. I put in a call to her, but ... please let readers know that an excellent, licensed electrician is Mr. Michael Gooding. The number I have for him is 563-4144. I can attest to the quality of his work, as he installed ceiling fans in my home.

— GLADYS BAXLEY, 1300 BLOCK OF EMERALD ST. NE

I have six coupons for free \$8 tickets to Thursday's 8 p.m. Mystics vs. New York Liberty game, MCI Center. Call me if you're interested!

— MARC BORBELY, 536 13TH ST. NE, 544-2447.§

Questions

I was wondering if you would do a story on 401-403 13th Street, NE. The boarded-up building is the property of PEPCO (Potomac Electric Power Company). They have not cut the grass in front of the property, and the space on the inside on the chain link fence has become a graveyard for beer bottles and soda cans. Has anyone been in touch with PEPCO? Do they have any plans for the building? What about the upkeep (grounds)? Any information you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

— ASILIA HILL, 800 BLOCK OF D ST. NE,
OWNER OF 404 13TH ST. NE
AND A HOUSE ON THE 1200 BLOCK OF E

InForum

Marc, many thanks for the last issue for the Corner Forum. The contrast on the two views of the 400 block of 13th, by Mr. Cromartie and the other gentleman, was very interesting. Also, I was wondering if there is any news on the Excello front and the meeting last Monday.

— RICHARD SUNDBERG, 1200 BLOCK OF DUNCAN PL. NE

The city's recycling contractors often don't pick up the recycling bins.

— CHESTER W. HUNTER, 1310 EMERALD ST. NE §

City Says Rising Property Taxes Mean More Services Can Be Offered

BY LIBO LIU, 500 BLOCK OF 14TH STREET NE

You don't have to look hard to notice the changes in the neighborhood in recent years — the changing face of population, the gentrification and certainly, for better or for worse, the rising property values.

For Washington, many of the changes occurred during the last few years, too recently to be documented by the 2000 Census.

But according to Chris Bender, spokesman for the D.C. Office of Planning and Economic Development, D.C.'s population has stopped declining and has even grown somewhat during the last couple of years.

And D.C. is not alone.

Experts in demography say that old cities like Washington all across America have enjoyed a certain degree of revitalization in some city neighborhoods in the last few years. They say people who have been buying and renovating the old houses are those young professionals who don't have children or school-age children, as well as the so-called empty-nesters whose children have grown up and left home.

No specific data from the 2000 Census is available yet on the trend, but Jason Schachter, the researcher in charge of compiling the related data at the U.S. Census Bureau, says reports due out by the end of this year should support the assessment.

For Washington, the recent inflow of middle-class families has boosted business in retail, restaurant, construction and other home services. The rising property value also means higher tax revenue for the city.

"In this era when a lot of states and cities are strained fiscally, it's allowed us to offer more services, because we have more tax dollars to pay for the services that residents want," says Bender of the city's planning and development office.

To build on the momentum, Mayor Anthony Williams early this year set a goal of bringing 100,000 new residents to the District over the next decade.

Not everyone is benefiting from the recent rise of property value, however. Renters have to pay higher rent for the same apartments they have been living in. The dramatic rise of property taxes has also increased financial burden for some long-time residents who live on fixed income.

Even the middle-class newcomers are weighing the pros and cons of living in the city, especially if they are going to have children and the schools don't improve soon.

In fact, researchers say that middle class-families are still moving out of the city, but that young professionals and so-called empty nesters are moving into the city in greater numbers at the same time. §

SEND IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND YOUR NEWS! — by phone (544-2447); by voicemail (517-9128);
by e-mail (news@thecornerforum.org); or by mail (536 13th St. NE).

Kingsman Field to Be Closed for One Year, for Renovations

Michael Herman, 1300 block of D Street NE, submitted the following update on Kingsman Field, which lies west of Kingsman Elementary School, to questions sent to him by Marc Borbely, 536 13th St. NE, along with the preliminary plans sketched out by city contractor The Temple Group in May.

Mr. Herman said he participates in the North Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association (NLPNA) but is not an official spokesperson for the group. He also said his understanding of the project is based on specifications shared in May, which are subject to change.

He also pointed out that the May plans include use of a plot owned but not used by Pepco, which the community had asked that Pepco donate for the field but which Pepco has not yet donated, as well as use of an alley property that he said City Council member Sharon Ambrose (Ward 6) was seeing through, but he said there has been a hold-up on that, as well.

Who came up with these plans?

The plans were drawn up based on an RFP [request for proposals] from the city for renovation of the field according to their specified amenities.

Was there any neighborhood involvement?

The North Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association has always been a steward of the field. Formerly, neighbors maintained it after the school was closed.

The field was used by Kingsman school when it was occupied. Up until the riots in the 60s, there was a Safeway there. It was never clear whether or not the school truly owned the property. When Kingsman was put on the block, the NLPNA worked to keep the field a public space for the community.

The current transformation was spearheaded by the soccer and baseball leagues that play there in the summer. Susanne Wells was one of the principal players in moving the project along.

This past April, fliers were distributed to all households surrounding the field announcing a meeting with the field design team, The Temple Group. Several neighbors attended that cold, rainy April morning, and some minor adjustments regarding the placement of temporary fencing, placement of the fountain, and configuration of the access gates were voiced and added to the plans.

Are these essentially the city's latest preliminary plans — pending acquisition of the two sites you mentioned?

These were put out on request from NLPNA. We also asked that the final plans be posted on-site so that neighbors can keep involved. This has not yet been done.

The plans should be considered preliminary, as they show both the alley plot and the Pepco plot incorporated into the design. The final design will be determined by funding and time, as well as the use or non-use of the two aforementioned

plots of land.

The field will be completely fenced in during renovation (one year), and then the eastern end will be opened again with no fence. NLPNA has asked that access to the basketball court behind Kingsman not be impeded during this time, so that kids and adults can play there.

What agency in the city is doing the planning, and why?

When the field was formally disconnected from the Kingsman School property, care and maintenance, and I suppose actual ownership, was transferred to D.C. Parks and Recreation. This is the agency conducting the renovation.

What has Sharon Ambrose's involvement been?

Second-hand, I was told that Sharon Ambrose's office worked to have the square dead-end of the adjoining alley ceded to the field. That space is supposed to retain the mulberry tree that grows there to provide a shaded sitting area when sports games are held.

What's the timeline for reconstruction, and what are the next steps?

The field will be graded flat for soccer. The baseball diamonds will stay and be spruced up, with new seating for the players. The trees planted under the guidance of NLPNA will remain around the perimeter of the field. The mulberry in the northeast quadrant against the Kingsman School land will also stay, to provide shade for spectators. The three maple trees by the Pepco property will also be retained, again for shade.

Since the soccer league plays on two small fields, they will use mobile goals; there will be no fixed goals. Pop-up irrigation sprinklers will be installed, as well as a water fountain. The field will be covered with sod, which should sit for one year before the field is made accessible to the neighborhood.

The edge of the field along the alleys of 13th Street and E Street will be cleaned of weeds and debris. There should be room for plants to be added, but it is unclear whether the city will do this, or whether neighbors will contribute more attractive landscaping than what is currently growing there.

When the work is done, the fence along the eastern edge will be removed.

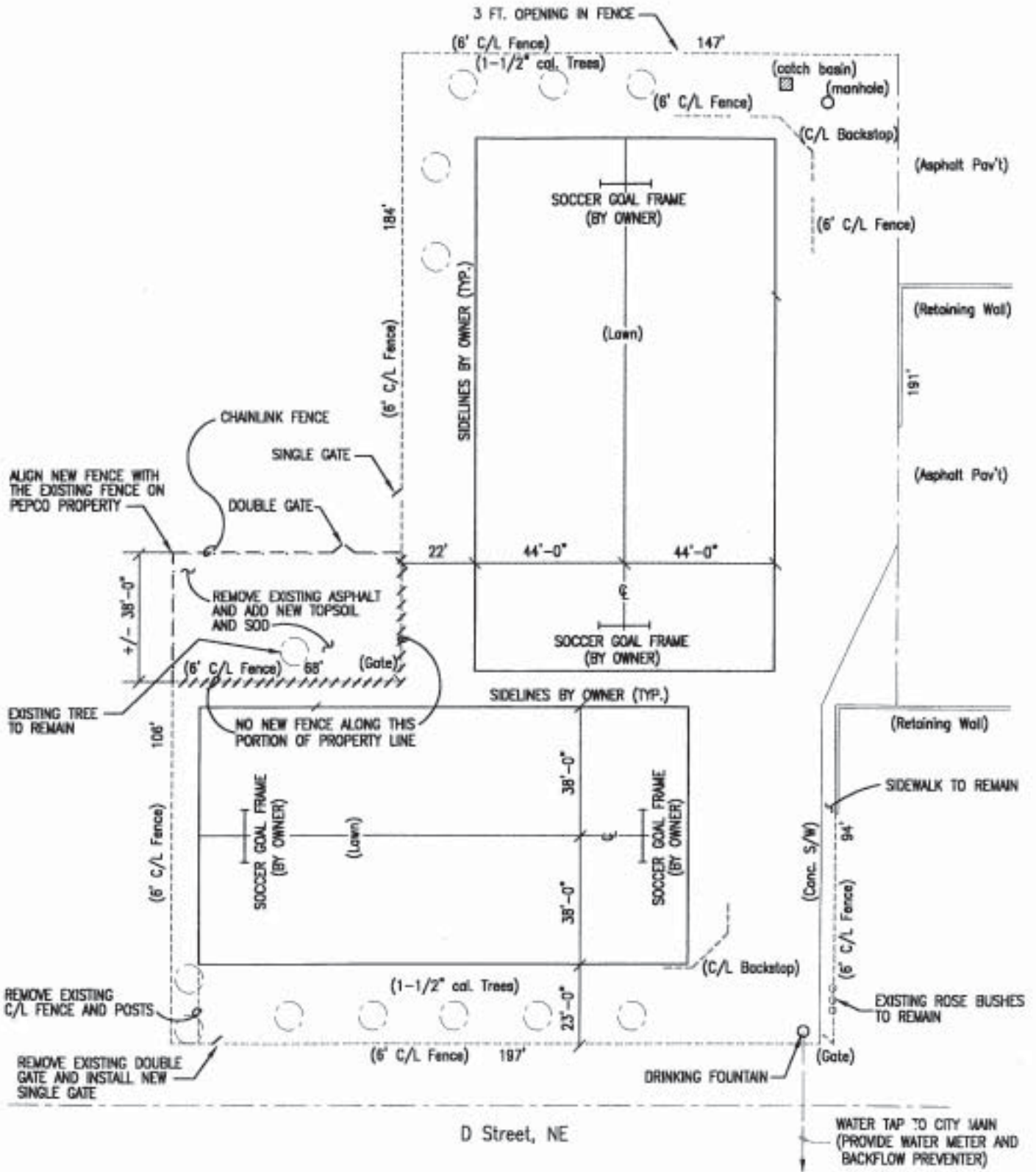
Anything else folks should know?

The field has long been a casual place for children to play, for joggers to run and exercise, and for dogs to exercise.

Up until now, most sports teams and most dog owners have been very diligent in keeping the field clean.

In a year, the field will be renovated, and Kingsman School will be open. It is hoped that the field will get a lot of use from the neighborhood and the school, and a lot of respect to keep it clean, safe and inviting for everyone in the neighborhood. §

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when neighbors weren't home to receive them. You knew when you came home late from work that Mr. Gray was more than likely looking out his window for the lights to come on in your house before he would allow himself to sleep.

And the neighborhood history! Mr. Gray could relay the neighborhood events from the decades following WWII as fresh as if they had happened just last week. He knew that the first man who had succeeded in knocking down Joe Lewis, at the peak of the heavyweight-boxing champion's career, had lived in one of the three little row houses on the corner of 13th and F Streets. He knew about the shopkeeper whose store was torched during the riots of the sixties but who, for years afterwards, let the neighbors use the empty lot where his store once stood as a community garden. Mr. Gray knew the life stories of "Bayboy" and others who hung out on the street drinking liquor from bottles wrapped in paper sacks.

But did the neighbors know that he had served in WWII and that following the war, he interviewed at Howard University where he was snubbed for having the rough demeanor of a young man returning from war? And that out of pride, he refused to return to Howard and went to work at the Pentagon instead?

Did they know his father was a teacher? Did they know that he cared for his wife until her death from Alzheimer's?

Mr. Gray cared. He looked after the young folks who, filled with hope, moved into the neighborhood in the mid 1990's when it was still caught in that dangerous twilight of drugs and guns. He took the time to share his stories so that we might learn a little more about the world. Thank you, sir, for the lifetime of stories you shared with us.

— JANE MERGLER, OF ELLICOTT CITY,
LIVED AT 540 13TH ST. NE FROM 1992 TO 1999

What I remember most is that he was always kind enough to pick up my packages and things like that. He was just a good neighbor.

He told me quite a bit about his life — he was quite animated on the subject of D.C. voting rights and civil rights in D.C. He was in the Army in World War II and was involved in the construction of the Burma Road — basically I think they were working with the partisans or whoever it was in China that was fighting the Japanese, and they had built a supply route over the Himalayas or around the Himalayas. He got two bronze stars. He also should have gotten the Purple Heart because he was wounded in combat, but there was some bureaucratic snafu, and he was actually never awarded the Purple Heart. He served in the Army in WW II and then served for a very long time in the National Security Administration. He spent his whole working life in public service — mostly in defense issues.



He talked a lot about that neighborhood, and how it had sort of fluctuated between majority black, and majority white. He went sailing for a hobby, and fishing. He had a story about living up in Alaska during the War, I guess on his way over to Asia, and had stayed with somebody there and had always meant to go back and go fishing again with these people — it was one of the things he planned to do, and I don't know if he ever got to do it, but he was a big fisherman, and I think he offered me fish once or twice that he had caught in the Chesapeake Bay.

— RUSSELL HILLBERRY, 300 BLOCK OF 4TH STREET SE,
LIVED AT 540 13TH ST. NE FROM 1999-2000

He used to bring me fish and stuff, when he'd go fishing. He used to see me outside, washing cars and stuff, and he used to come over to give me some fish.

— THEIEL JACKSON, 1309
EMERALD ST. NE



Mr. Gray would receive my UPS and postal packages so I didn't have to go get them. I thought that was really thoughtful. I'm going to miss seeing him come home from fishing every week. When Marc and I first moved here four years ago, Mr. Gray welcomed us into his home and taught us how to cut a dead fish and cook it. He was a very interesting man, and he will be missed.

— TAMMI CIOFFI, 536 13TH ST. NE

This is Rev. Catherine Bego speaking on behalf of our community, in reference to the recent loss of Mr. Enoch Gray, who lived on 13th Street NE. Mr. Gray was a pillar in this community. Mr. Gray had been in this community for approximately 50 years. Prior to his moving here on 13th Street, his wife and her parents lived there, and after Mr. Gray finished his tour of duty in the service, he joined his wife and his in-laws at that residence.

Mr. Gray never had any children of his own, but as I reflect over his involvement in the community, Mr. Gray was every child's father. What I liked about him was that if he saw one of the children doing something, he would chastise them, he would reprimand them, and he would give them a bit of good advice. And not only would he do that, but when he saw their parent, he would report to the parent what he had observed the child doing and what advice he had given to them. So Mr. Gray was looked at as the father of the neighborhood.

We all respected him; we shall all miss him; we all loved him; and we will pray that his memories will forever be in this community, because of what he's done and the contributions that he made.

— CATHERINE BEGO, 1308 EMERALD ST. NE

He was nosy as hell, but he meant well. You didn't have to worry about nobody breaking into your house, because Mr. Gray would intervene. That's who I learned it from.

He watched out for you. I always knew Mr. Gray meant well, even though we didn't get along.

When I was moving in my house, he didn't know I was moving in. He knew my house was empty. I came around the back of the house. He ran around there with his dog Ruff and his stick, and he said, "Hey! What's going on?" I showed him my I.D.

I used to look out for him. At 3 o'clock or 4 in the morning, he'd leave out on Wednesdays, to go fishing. On Thursdays, he goes to buy food. And at 12 o'clock, everyday, he'd go out to play his numbers in Maryland. 12:30 at the latest. If I didn't see him, I'd think something was wrong. He used to always make a joke, "I'm gonna move far away from you, because you bother me too much. I'm moving to Alaska."

— RENA QUALLIS, WHO LIVED AT 525 13TH ST. NE FOR 11 YEARS, UNTIL MAY 2003

Mr. Gray was very generous. I had known him for 21 years. He was here when I moved here. He was always willing to help out — look out for other people's houses, for other people's cars. He was a fussbucket, but he really had a big heart.



He was home during the day, so if he heard any strange noises, he would always go outside, look around, see what was going on.

Once someone busted into my backyard and stole some stuff out of there. He went out, he saw the person who did it; he was able to run them off. He received packages for me while I was at work — those kind of things. And when

I went away on vacation, he would look out for my house and bring my mail in.

And he loved to feed the squirrels. I'll have to try to feed them now.

He took care of his wife until she died. She retired, and then she developed Alzheimer's, and he kept her at home and took care of her very well. He was just a nice guy all around. I'll really miss him.

— JOYCE JOHNSON, 521 13TH ST. NE

He always went out of his way to help people. When some people needed him to write a survey, or something like that, he always went out of his way to help. And he just loved people.

We have been friends for six years, and I'm really gonna miss him. I miss him now. That's my baby.

— DOROTHY COBLE, 5000 BLOCK OF A STREET SE §

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walk.]

The 23-year-old victim, whose identity is being withheld by the police pending positive identification by his next of kin, was taken to George Washington University Hospital Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead at 2:42 a.m.

Police Lt. Renato Caldwell, who is in charge of public safety in PSA 511, said the man was shot in the neck, and police knew no suspect as of Thursday night. He said the immediate area is known to have drug related activities, but he did not link the homicide to drugs.

"It was the first homicide in PSA 511 in two, perhaps three years," Lt. Caldwell said.

He urged residents not to worry too much about the latest crime. "This neighborhood is still one of the safest in the city. Homicide could occur in any neighborhood, even in the most expensive one,"

However, he suggested residents take following cautionary measures to protect themselves:

- 1) Be aware of what is going on in the neighborhood;
- 2) Walk with your partner or a friend; and
- 3) Leave porch lights on.

On a brighter note, Lt. Caldwell said incidents of property crime in the neighborhood, which had gone up in recent months, have come down considerably since the last PSA meeting, with the help of a special task force. §

Tips

An Alternative to Pay Phones

If you make calls from pay phones, don't use coins - use a good calling card (careful, though: I think there are lots of scams out there).

For the past three years, my mother, wife and I have used and had very good experiences with a company called Hello World Telecom, based in Scottsdale, Arizona.

You dial a toll free number, enter your code, and then dial the number you're trying to call. The cost is 12 cents a minute (or about 12.5 cents per minute including all taxes) to anywhere in the country, and the company bills on tenth-of-a-minute increments. This means you only get billed 4 cents if you talk to someone for 20 seconds. That's 4 cents versus the 50 cents many pay phones now charge.

I asked the company to automatically deduct my charges each month from my bank (they still send me an invoice, along with a letter to customers from the company owner, a wacky German guy), but you can also pay by check.

If you're interested in this, call 1-888-333-6710 during the week to sign up. If anyone knows of a better deal, please let me know!

— MARC BORBELY, 536 13TH ST. NE §

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, August 18

10:30 a.m. Viewing — Enoch Gray, 523 13th St. NE. Service at 11:30 a.m. At Henry S. Washington & Sons, 4925-27 Nannie Helen Burroughs Ave. NE, 398-6700. Burial at Quantico National Cemetery (703-690-2217), 18424 Joplin Rd. (Route 619), Triangle, Va., after the service.

Wednesday, August 20

10:30 a.m. Roots of Resistance: A Story of the Underground Railroad. Film. (60 mins.) Includes “interviews, slave narratives, and the recollections of descendants of fugitive slaves and slaveholders.” At Anacostia Museum & Center for African American History & Culture, 1901 Fort Place, SE. Reservations suggested, 287-3369. <http://www.si.edu/anacostia/calendar.htm>.

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Job Opportunity Fair. By H Street Community Development Corporation. Participating employer organizations include SunTrust Bank of Washington, Hotel Association of Washington DC, CareersUSA, DC Water & Sewer Authority, Naval District of Washington, DC Department of Employment Services. At J.O. Wilson Elementary School, 660 K St. NE. Info, Eric Jones, HSCDC, 544-8353.

6:30 p.m. Police Service Area (PSA) 511 community meeting. (Third Wednesday of every month.) Teacher’s Credit Union, 9th and D streets NE.

6:45 p.m. D.C. Consumer Utility Board. “To discuss current utility issues from the consumer’s perspective.” At 1133 15th St. NW, Suite 500, 727-3071. <http://www.opc-dc.gov/caldrfrm.htm>.

Thursday, August 21

6:30 p.m. Marching on Washington: The Forging of an American Political Tradition. Author Lucy G. Barber “discusses D.C.’s history as a forum for national public protest and its evolution from being the private domain of politicians and officials to a national stage for citizen participation.” \$8, includes admission to museum. At City Museum, 801 K St. NW. For info or reservations, 383-1809. http://www.culturaltourismdc.org/calendar2532/calendar_show.htm?doc_id=186877.

Friday, August 22

4 p.m. Ceremony to Unveil Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Plaque. Prayer vigil and speeches 7:30 p.m. Poetry Jam (“Spoken Word on Washington”) at 9 p.m. By the D.C. Host Committee. At Lincoln Memorial, 23rd Street at the National Mall. 232-2500, ext. 2. <http://www.connectdc.com/40thanniversarymarchdc>.

6:30-9 p.m. Bearing Witness to a Dream Deferred. “To commemorate the 40th anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) and the Rev. Walter Fauntroy participate in a roundtable discussion about the march and its affects on American society. A question-and-answer period follows. The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) Freedom Singers perform.” At the National Museum of American History, Carmichael Auditorium, 14th St. and Constitution Avenue NW, 357-2700 or 357-2996. <http://americanhistory.si.edu/events>.

7 p.m. *Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin*. (documentary film.) “One of his most significant contributions was his work as the Coordinator and Executive Director for the 1963 March on Washington. He advised Dr. King and President Johnson. Rustin debated Malcolm X and Kwame Toure. He was openly gay.” At the Kennedy Center for The Performing Arts, 2700 F St. NW, 467-4600 or 416-8000. <http://www.marchonwashington.org/home.htm>.

Saturday, August 23

8:30 a.m. (note earlier time.) Corner Forum meeting. “Help assemble the current issue and plan future ones.” At the home of Marc Borbely and Tammi Cioffi, 536 13th St. NE, 544-2447.

9 a.m. 40th Anniversary March on Washington. “Mobilize for DC statehood, voting rights & full political representation, full employment, decent housing & health care services for our families, excellent education for our children, a fair and equal criminal justice, civil and human rights for all of our citizens.” Gather for a 10 a.m. march through the city’s neighborhoods. At Lincoln Park, 12th and East Capitol Streets NE. Rally at 11 a.m. at Washington Monument. 3 p.m. march to the Lincoln Memorial for a commemorative mass rally. By more than 100 organizations. <http://www.marchonwashington.org/home.htm>. Volunteers are needed: call Joia Jefferson Nuri at 301-920-0670, Rob Robinson at 202-547-0435 or Naomi Seligman at 202-628-7772, ext. 126.

Sunday, August 24

2 p.m. Second Annual Fun Fest. By the National Community Church. At 4th and F Streets NE. “An awesome event for kids to come out and learn fun & exciting skills. All kids are invited (please register). We’ll be teaching music, dance, basketball, crafts, and other skills.” To register or for info, contact Nina King, Nina@nccdc.org or to volunteer or with other questions, 544-0414. <http://www.nccdc.org/pages/events/pages/eventsmaster.asp>

Ongoing

Sundays-Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. Today through Sept. 10. Busybodies. “Musefire Productions presents a program of three one-act plays, including Susan Glaspell’s *Trifles*, Maria Irene Fornes’ *Spring Time*, and Merideth Taylor’s *Citizen Patrol*.” At H Street Playhouse, 1365 H St. NE. \$15 or \$12 for students and seniors. 301-928-0510. <http://www.musefire.org>. §