

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 #50
Saturday, Oct. 5, 2003
37¢ + 2¢ D.C. sales tax
<http://www.thecornerforum.org>

Atlas Arts Center Renovations Began on Sept. 22

BY JANE LANG, PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ATLAS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 1333 H ST. NE

Phase I of the renovation of the Atlas Performing Arts Center began on Sept. 22. The work consists of removing the “hazardous materials” used when the Atlas was first constructed — asbestos and lead paint — and mold, and simultaneously implementing the interior demolition. When this work is finished in November, the Atlas will be a clean “shell,” ready for the main part of the renovation to begin.

From the present perspective, Phase II — the renovation of the store fronts as dance studios — is expected to begin this winter, perhaps as early as January. This next phase includes the renovation of the facade and marquee, so the 1300 block may have a very different look a year from now.

Phase III — including the development of the four theaters, offices, dressing rooms, costume and set shops — may proceed in tandem with Phase II, if fundraising continues apace.

In the final Phase IV, the fixed-seat theater will be finished and outfitted with lighting, rigging and sound equipment.

Joy of Motion, the dance school that will manage the Atlas studios, is already conducting after-school dance classes at Miner Elementary School. Additional classes are being introduced at Miner this fall, and plans are being made for classes at J.O. Wilson as well. The seniors’ choruses at Capitol Hill Towers and Delta Towers, taught by Atlas Art Partner Levine School of Music, are resuming this fall as well. All of these programs have been embraced with great enthusiasm by the children and seniors involved. But the best is yet to come when the Atlas opens its doors.

During the renovation period, the Atlas crews will do their best to avoid or at least minimize disruption in the lives of neighbors. Nevertheless, some degree of inconvenience is bound to occur from time to time. Neighbors are encouraged to bring any concerns to the attention of Atlas Administrator Scott Kenison at 772-1153.

The first Atlas Newsletter was printed this summer. If you didn’t receive a copy, email or call Scott at skenison@atlasarts.org with your address. And, if you have a memory of the Atlas from the past, please send it along as well. Also, be sure to check out the Atlas web site — AtlasArts.org. §

Thank You

BY TAMMI CIOFFI, 536 13TH ST. NE

In last week’s issue I wrote about my bike being taken. The same day the issue came out, Sharon Cochran (1300 block of Emerald St. NE) lent me her bike. I used it all week to get to work — thank you so much, Sharon!! Then yesterday, Debra Wynn, 538 13th St. NE, my next door neighbor, gave me her bike, which she was going to donate. It’s a lot like my bike that was stolen, and I love it!! Thank you so much, Debra!

Thank you to my father and to Stephan Smith, 1311 E St. NE, who helped build a patio/deck outside my house this weekend. Marc and I really appreciate it — the deck looks so nice!! It will look even better once we have finished the landscaping. Thanks again!! §



Bill Cioffi (Burke, Va), Tammi Cioffi (536 13th St. NE) and Stephan Smith (1311 E St. NE), build a deck at 536 13th St. NE.

Helena Ikenberry Turns 100 Days Old

Helena Ikenberry turned 100 days old on Thursday!

When Helena, daughter of Michael Ikenberry and Andrea Fuller, 1227 E St. NE, was born on June 24, she weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces and was 1 foot, 9 inches long. §



Helena Ikenberry

Free Sofa Bed

Loveseat-sized sofa bed free to whomever wants to come get it.

It’s old and darn heavy, but the mattress is comfortable and in good shape, and the sofa has a slipcover. Give us a ring if you want it!

— Andrea Fuller, 1227 E St. NE
548-9665 §

Questions / Answers

City Can Remove Hazardous Trees

BY MARC BORBELY, 536 1313TH ST. NE

In last week's issue of the Corner Forum, Dorothy Bess (1336 E St. NE) asked whether there are rules about large trees on neighboring properties.

A search for the word "trees" in the D.C. Code (posted online at <http://dcode.westgroup.com/home/dccodes/default.wl>), reveals two sections of District law (D.C. Code §6-804 and § 8-651.06) that allow the city to levy fines for or remove trees on private property that are dangerous or hazardous to persons or property on public space (sidewalks, for example).

Also, a D.C. municipal regulation (CDCR 24-2001.3) (these can be looked up, though there is no free search option, at http://os.dc.gov/services/municipal_regs.shtm) says: "No person, without a permit from the District, shall permit any bush, shrub, or tree to extend from private property onto public space in any manner that interferes with the free use of the public space."

According to <http://www.nolo.com> — a publisher of legal information for nonlawyers — (search for "trees" on the site), residents in the United States generally have the legal right to trim tree branches hanging onto their property, up to the property line. §

Updates

COMINGS AND GOINGS: 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 today, the real estate listings for the Corner Forum area have changed from Sept. 20 as follows: 1233 Duncan Pl. NE is newly listed (\$379,000). The following listings have not changed: 1246 Duncan Pl. NE (\$365,000) and 1306 Emerald St. NE (\$298,000). NOTE: If you would like to volunteer to compile these for-sale listings regularly or once in a while, please call 544-2447 or e-mail news@thecornerforum.org. Your assistance would be appreciated!

CORNER FORUM ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: The following people helped produce or distribute the Sept. 28 issue of the Corner Forum: Marc Borbely, 536 13th St. NE, Tammi Cioffi, 536 13th St. NE, and Sharon Cochran, 1300 block of Emerald Street NE. There are 81 households in the Corner Forum area that are subscribed to the newsletter (29 on E Street, 26 on Emerald Street, 19 on 13th Street, and 7 on Duncan Place). §

Tidbits

Bring Yard Debris to Curb by Monday

BY MARY L. MYERS, FROM A PRESS RELEASE
(Spokeswoman, D.C. Department of Public Works)

Isabel made quite a mess, knocking down 350 street trees and damaging hundreds more across the city. The District debris management crews cleared hundreds of streets and alleys — and we still have work to do! Over the next three weeks, we will have contractors hauling away those big trees that were pushed to the side following the storm.

Crews will be working in neighborhoods from Oct. 6-24. Residents may take advantage of this clean-up opportunity by gathering limbs and branches from their own yards and taking them to the curb for collection by Oct. 6. The crews can only collect the debris placed on public space! Leaves and small debris can be bagged and set out with the regular trash.

Residents who don't want to wait for crews can take storm debris to the Fort Totten Trash Transfer Station at 4900 Bates Road, NE from 1-5 p.m. weekdays and from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturdays. The transfer station will also be open to residents on two Sundays, Oct. 12 and Oct. 19 from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. §

Section of Red Line to Close Friday

(FROM THE WMATA WEB SITE)

Track replacement between Union Station and Fort Totten will require closing that stretch of the Red Line from 10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, to 5 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14.

During this time there will be no rail service to the Brookland-CUA and Rhode Island Avenue stations. However, Metro will run free shuttle buses between Fort Totten and Union Station with stops at the closed stations. Customers are advised to detour the closed track by riding the Green Line.

Metro regrets the inconvenience during this important work.

Info: 637-1328 or <http://www.wmata.com>. §

Take Pictures for the Newsletter

Feel free to borrow the Corner Forum's digital camera to take one or more pictures for the newsletter.

The camera belongs to every subscriber (about 3 cents of the weekly newsletter price of 37 cents go towards paying for the camera.)

Just call 544-2447, anytime. §

**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).
TO SUBSCRIBE (\$10.17 including tax for 26 issues), call 544-2447 or drop off cash or a check to the address above.**

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

Tuesday, October 7

5:30 p.m. D.C.P.S. Girls High School Volleyball. Anacostia vs. Spingarn. At Spingarn, 2500 Benning Rd. NE, 724-4525, <http://spingarn.k12.dc.us>. Sports schedule: <http://www.k12.dc.us/dcps/frontpagepdfs/fall%20sports%20schedule.pdf>.

7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.) People Have the Power Tour Rally. With Ralph Nader, Dennis Kucinich, Head-Roc, Malcolm X Drummers and Dancers, Elizabeth Davis, Vanessa Dixon, Dorothy Scott and Damu Smith. "Inform yourself and help improve your community!" \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. At the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church, 1518 M St. NW. <http://www.democracyrising.org>.

7:30 p.m. North Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association monthly meeting. On agenda: new transit alternatives, like light rail and bus rapid transit, with Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and District Department of Transportation representatives. Also scheduled to attend: School Board Member Tommy Wells. At Lane Memorial CME Church, 14th & C Streets NE.

8-9 p.m. Thomas Jefferson: A View from the Mountain. WETA TV 26. "Focusing on Jefferson's personal and public dilemma over race and slavery." Second half, same time on Wednesday.

Wednesday, October 8

Sherwood Park Recreation Center Grand Opening. At Sherwood, 10 & G Street NE. Info, 673-7660 or 7646. <http://dpr.dc.gov/news/release.asp?id=100>

Noon-1 p.m. African Americans in Congress and Their Influence on Policy and Government Issues. Lecture by Dr. Carol Swain, Professor of Political Science and Law, Vanderbilt University School of Law. At Russell Senate Office Building, Room 385, Constitution Avenue between 1st and C Streets NE. By the United States Capitol Historical Society. Reservations required, rsvp@uschs.org or Felicia Bell, 543-8919 ext. 31. <http://www.uschs.org>.

1 p.m. City Council Hearing on Rats and Recycling. "To question the [city] on its rat abatement and recycling programs, as well as to receive an update on the District's air quality." In the Council Chamber, room 500, John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. Info, Jim Slattery, Committee on Public Works, 727-8105. <http://www.dccouncil.washington.dc.us/Calen001.htm>.

1-3 p.m. Philately in Action: A Basic Introduction. (Repeats Oct. 22, same time.) "Celebrate National Stamp Collecting

Month by learning the basics of stamp collecting. Enjoy such activities as stamp soaking and sorting. Sort through the various stamps available at the activity table and create a stamp collection to take home!" At the National Postal Museum, Atrium, 2 Massachusetts Ave. NE, 357-2991. http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/museum/1b_calendar.html.

Thursday, October 9

4:30 p.m. D.C.P.S. Girls High School Volleyball. Spingarn vs. Eastern. At Eastern, 1700 East Capitol St. NE, 698-4500.

5:30 p.m. D.C.P.S. Junior High School Football. Eliot vs. Browne. At Cardozo, 1300 Clifton St. NW, 673-7385.

6:30 p.m. Southern City, National Ambition: Controversy of Slavery in the Nation's Capital. "A lecture by Kym Rice, GWU professor of Museum Studies." \$15. Reservations requested, 842-0920. At Decatur House Museum, 748 Jackson Pl. NW (one block north of White House).

7-9 p.m. ANC 6A Monthly Meeting. Preliminary agenda includes a possible update on the Youth Services Administration's group home on Kramer Street (city officials have been invited to the meeting) and approval of the ANC's budget for the next fiscal year. At Miner Elementary School, Student Dining Room, 600 16th St. NE. Info, ANC 6A Chairman Joseph Fengler (6A02), 423-8868.

Friday, October 10

7 p.m. D.C.P.S. High School Football. Anacostia vs. Spingarn. At Spingarn, 2500 Benning Rd. NE, 724-4525, <http://spingarn.k12.dc.us>.

Saturday, October 11

All Day. Happy Birthday to Chester W. Hunter, 1310 Emerald St. NE!

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Bi-Annual Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off. "D.C. residents can bring items including old cleaning and gardening chemicals, small quantities of gasoline, pesticides and poisons, acids, varnish, oil-based paints, solvents, aerosols, wood preservatives, spent batteries of all kinds, roofing tar, chemistry sets, automotive fluids, ... asbestos floor tiles, ... [and] electronics." By the D.C. Department of Public Works. In the Carter Barron Amphitheater parking lot, 16th & Kennedy Streets NW. http://dpw.dc.gov/news/2003/aug/08_28_03.shtml.

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Earth Charter Community Summit. With Colman McCarthy, Suzan Shown Harjo, Mike Tidwell and the Rev. Grayland Hagler. "Workshops focusing on sustainability, renewable energy, globalization, personal transformation, interfaith responses to hate and violence, and children." At the University of the District of Columbia, Building 38, 2nd Floor (Metro: UDC, Red Line). Info, Steve Smith, 301-588-5632. <http://www.earthchartersummits.org/locations/washingtondc/default.htm>.

Sunday, October 12

All Day. Happy Birthday to The Corner Forum! §

This Newsletter Needs Your Voice

**SEND IN YOUR
REACTIONS TO THE
ARTICLES YOU READ!**

**SEND IN YOUR THOUGHTS
AND YOUR NEWS!**

(anything that might be interesting or
useful to your neighbors is welcome)

-
- by phone (544-2447);
 - by voicemail (517-9128);
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 - or by mail (536 13th St. NE)