

# 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 #60  
Saturday, Jan. 24, 2004  
37¢ + 2¢ D.C. sales tax  
<http://www.thecornerforum.org>

## Parking Problems Discussed at PSA Meeting

STORY BY RICHARD SUNDBERG, 1200 BLOCK OF DUNCAN PLACE NE  
PHOTOS BY SHARON COCHRAN, 1300 BLOCK OF EMERALD STREET NE

The first Police Service Area (PSA) 511 meeting for 2004 was held on Wednesday at the Teachers Credit Union building, at 9th & D Streets NE. The meeting was well attended by residents and the police.

Lieutenant Caldwell opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. He introduced our newest PSA officer, Sergeant DeJesus. Of course Officers Gaumond and Phillips were also there.

Lt. Caldwell gave an oral crime report. All categories held steady except thefts from auto (TFA). This category has seen an increase of late, coinciding with the release, pending a hearing, of a gentleman who lives in the neighborhood and who has been arrested on numerous occasions for TFA. The lieutenant went on to say that each time that specific resident is incarcerated this type of crime sees a decrease, and with his release there is an increase. The lieutenant emphasized that the best way to avoid this unpleasant crime is to ensure you do not leave items in your car.



**Sergeant DeJesus**

The meeting then turned to suggestions for specific PSA efforts.

The perennial parking problem was raised. At that point Lt. Caldwell introduced a resident from the 1300 block of D Street NE to discuss the problems there and how they have been addressed. On that street, residents obtaining zoned parking, which helped the situation during the day. However, the block still has a problem in the evenings, so a Registered Out-of-State Automobile (ROSA) program request was made. With this scenario, Department of Public Works (DPW) employees survey a block in the evening, note the vehicles without D.C. license plates, permits, reciprocity stickers, etc., and enter the vehicles' information in a database. The employees return to the block approximately two weeks later, note the cars that are still on the block and issue a summons to rectify the situation. If the summons is ignored, \$100 tickets are issued. At this point there was some lively discussion over the pros and cons of this tactic. The discussion continued until Commander McGuire arrived.

Commander McGuire is the commander of the First Police District and attended the meeting to introduce himself and answer any questions about the PSA moving from the Fifth District to the First. A summary of what he said follows:

- Phone Number: 727-4586 Email: [tmcguire@mpdc.org](mailto:tmcguire@mpdc.org);
- Redistricting should be completed by approximately April 15;
- The current PSA officers will move to the first district;
- Due to resource considerations, no additional substations are currently envisioned;

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## Agency Spokesman To Provide Statement On 525 13th St. NE

BY TAMMI CIOFFI, 536 13TH ST. NE

As many of you know, Rena Quallis's family was forced from their home (525 13th St. NE) because of a fire on May 17, last year.

The D.C. government came and boarded up the house, but that is all that has been done. The house still has a lot of garbage and debris in the back, and the front looks like it did in May just after the fire, with black smoke and things falling off the front of the house.

I called the D.C. Housing Authority's

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## D.C. Increasingly Feels Like a City

BY JOHN OLINGER, 1244 DUNCAN PL. NE

*(from the Jan. 14 e-mail forum  
themail@dcwatch, reprinted with the  
author's permission)*

The new movie theater on E Street is a great addition to downtown life. After work on Tuesday evening, I met a friend and we walked down to the theater, picked up our tickets, stopped in at Chapters (around the corner on 11th Street), a great, locally-owned independent bookstore, walked over to 10th Street for dinner at Bistro D'Oc, a nice, little southern French restaurant, and got back to the movie for the 7 p.m. show.

And when the show was over, we walked back on sidewalks full of pedestrians. Downtown has been bustling for a while, and each new venture provides another reason for sticking around after work and makes D.C. feel a little more like a city. §

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- A staffing analysis is under way to ensure effective use of officers;
- Each PSA will be divided into quarters, with specific officers assigned to each. This will allow development of community relationships; and
- Specific PSA structures, including lead officers, have not yet been determined. These should be in place by the end of March. Community input is welcomed.

At this point the CDR had to leave for another meeting. We then returned to the parking enforcement discussion for a few minutes, but since it was already 7:45 p.m., the meeting was adjourned. Usually the PSA group takes a walk after the meeting, but we decided to postpone the first walk of the year until next month.

The PSA meets on the third Wednesday of each month, at the Teachers Credit Union at 9th & D Streets NE. The meeting begins at 6:30, and you are cordially invited to attend. §



**Commander McGuire**

## City, Local Phone Numbers

*Once in while, the Corner Forum will print a list of contact information that might be useful for area residents. We are trying to put together a comprehensive list. What other phone numbers should be included? Please let us know if you know (or come across) additional useful phone numbers or if there are specific phone numbers we should try to find.*

### Government

- D.C. Call Center 727-1000 — for most city services (trash pickup, alley-cleaning or abandoned cars, etc.)
- Council Member (D-Ward 6)  
Sharon Ambrose — 724-8072
- School Board Representative (District 3)  
Tommy Wells — 442-5300
- ANC 6A05 (for the Corner Forum area south of the middle of E Street NE) Commissioner Michael Musante — 548-2542, 411 11th St. NE
- ANC 6A06 (for the Corner Forum area north of the middle of E Street NE) Commissioner Jessica Ward — 396-3193, 1310 G St. NE
- D.C. HealthCare Alliance  
Nurse Advice Line 842-2810
- Senior Citizen Programs — 547-8401
- Family Services — 727-5947
- Ward 6 Neighborhood Services Coordinator Peter Jones, 698-5622, and Assistant Coordinator Ms. Edmonds, 698-5620
- Social Services — 1211 G St. SE, 543-9030
- Animal Control and Shelter — 645-6188

### Police

- Police Department
- Emergency— 911
- Non-emergency — 311
- 1st District Lt. Hedgecock — 727-1415
- 5th District Lt. Caldwell — 727-4478

### Fire

- Emergency — 911
- Non-emergency — 673-3210

### Utilities

- PEPCO downed wires — 872-3432
- PEPCO power outage — 877-737-2662
- WASA for water emergency problems — 612-3400
- Washington Gas — 703-750-1000

### Other

- Salvation Army Thrift Store  
1375 H St. NE, 396-0916

## Neighbor News

### Book Club Anyone?

BY TAMMI CIOFFI, 536 13TH ST. NE

Well, since the holidays are over and things have calmed down a bit, I thought I would bring up the idea of a book club again.

I've only been in one book club before. There are no strict rules — we can make it whatever kind of club we like. If anyone is interested, we could meet and discuss what we want to do. How often would we like to meet? When and where? What kind of books do we want to read? etc.

I'd like to do this book club because I like to read but also because I enjoy getting to know new people and would love to know more people in the neighborhood.

If anyone is the least bit interested, call me at 544-2806 or drop me a note at 536 13th St. NE.

Thanks! §

— BY SHARON COCHRAN, 1300 BLOCK OF EMERALD ST. NE §

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press office on Wednesday and got through to Zachary Smith, the agency's director of public affairs, yesterday. Mr. Smith was very helpful but was unable to come up with a statement by today. He said that he would do more research on the house but that as of now it looked like his agency was not the owner of the house, and he had no comment as to what was going on with the house.

I faxed Mr. Smith some forms I printed from the Internet stating that the D.C. Housing Authority does own the home. He promised to get back to me next week with a formal statement. §

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## City Seeks Volunteers for Feb. 14-15 Swim Meet at Rumsey Aquatic Center

BY THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
(submitted by Sharon Cochran, 1300 block, Emerald St. NE)

From <http://dpr.dc.gov/index.asp>

DC Parks and Recreation needs your help! The department is preparing to host young swimmers from all over the nation for the 18th Annual Black History Invitational Swim Meet. The event will take place on February 14-15 at the William H. Rumsey Senior Aquatic Center (formerly known as Capitol East Natatorium), located at 635 North Carolina Ave., SE.

Teams will compete on Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to measure swim times during events; provide winners in each event with heat ribbons; direct spectators to seats, refreshment booths, restrooms and other areas; register volunteers and delegate assignments; and shuttle teams to and from the hotel and aquatic center. Volunteer timers are required to attend two hours of training prior to the event, and drivers must be certified DPR volunteers with a valid government driving permits.

Thirty-five teams from 33 US cities will meet to compete in the event. The annual meet provides urban youth with national exposure to organized and professional competition, a positive outlet for self-expression, an opportunity to achieve personal and athletic excellence and a chance to visit the nation's capital.

This event would not be possible each year without the help of its volunteers. Those who assist will enjoy the unique opportunity of serving as role models to the youth. For more information, please contact Gail Benjamin, DPR Volunteer Coordinator, at 282-0758. §

## 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 yesterday, the real estate listings for the Corner Forum area are unchanged from Dec. 19: There are no houses listed as being for sale.

**CORNER FORUM ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:** The following people helped produce or distribute the Dec. 20 issue of the Corner Forum: Marc Borbely, 536 13th St. NE (editing); Tammi Cioffi, 536 13th St. NE (editing). There are 81 households in the Corner Forum area that are subscribed to the newsletter (29 on Emerald Street, 28 on E Street, 18 on 13th Street, and 6 on Duncan Place). Thank you, to all. §

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## Organization Seeks Volunteers For Ivy City Oral History Project

BY PARISA NOROUZI, COMMUNITY ORGANIZER  
Washington Innercity Self Help (WISH)  
1419 V St. NW, 332-8800

(From the D.C. history discussion group H-DC, reprinted with the author's permission)

WISH has pulled together a small team of folks interested in conducting a grassroots neighborhood and oral history project in the small, historic Ivy City community of Northeast DC, between New York Avenue and Mt. Olivet Road NE.

This community has a remarkable history — founding its civic association in 1911, working to improve education for black children, and withstanding several attempts to depopulate the area by changing zoning, building a freeway through it, and otherwise subjecting it to abuse and neglect.

We are seeking support in this project. If you are interested in participating, lending your research or oral history skills or contributing financially to the project, please be in touch.

The first step of the project will be going door-to-door in Ivy City, speaking with community members and soliciting their involvement. Volunteers could be used for that process, as well as throughout the project. §

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**SEND IN YOUR THOUGHTS, NEWS AND PHOTOS! — by phone (544-2447); by voicemail (517-9128);  
by e-mail ([news@thecornerforum.org](mailto: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 SHARON COCHRAN  
1300 BLOCK OF EMERALD STREET NE

## **Sunday, January 25**

1 p.m. Help the D.C. Libraries. "Join the D.C. Library Renaissance Project in a meeting to help generate political support for the D.C. Public Library system." At Politics and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW, 364-1919.

3 p.m. The Capitol Hill Youth Chorus Concert. "Winter Winds." The multicultural concert selections include music by Victoria El Sabo, Laryissa Kuzmenko and Carolyn Jennings. \$5 for adults. At Christ Church Washington Parish, 620 G St. SE. 547-6839 or <http://www.chaw.org>.

## **Tuesday, January 27**

10 a.m. Zora! A production of New York's American Place Theatre. Kim Brockington as Zora Neale Hurston brings one of the most significant and controversial figures of the Harlem Renaissance to life. (Repeats on Jan. 28, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. and Jan. 29 at noon). At the Library of Congress, Coolidge Auditorium, 101 Independence Ave. SE. Info, Cheryl Fox, [cfox@loc.gov](mailto:cfox@loc.gov) or 707-3303. <http://www.loc.gov>.

## **Thursday, January 29**

8 p.m. Madcap Players Third Annual Winter Carnival of New Works. Works include "Quiet," "A Right Old Horrorshow," "Measuring Matthew" and five others. Repeats at 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 30, and Saturday, Jan. 31. At the H Street Playhouse, 1365 H St. NE. Tickets \$15. 800-494-TIXS or <http://www.boxofficetickets.com> to reserve tickets. <http://www.madcapplayers.com>.

## **Saturday, January 31**

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Make Your Own History Journal Workshop. Bring family pictures, buttons, and anything that can be included in a family journal. Make this a special project for you and your family. At the Anacostia Museum & Center for African American History & Culture, 1901 Fort Place, SE. Reservations, 287-3369. <http://www.anacostia.si.edu/information.htm>.

10:30 am - 2:30 p.m. Making Masonry Sculpture. Visit the exhibition Masonry Variations and see how architects and craftworkers created exciting structures using terrazzo, brick, stone and concrete block. Families then create their own artworks using a variety of tile and masonry. \$5 per sculpture. For all ages. At the National Building Museum, 401 F St. NW. <http://www.nbm.org/home.html>.

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Glaucoma Awareness Event. "African Americans are at particularly high risk for glaucoma, being liable to be hit by this devastating disease five to seven times more often than Caucasians." By the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation. At Howard University Hospital, 2041 Georgia Ave. NW. Info, 393-6046.

## **Tuesday, February 3**

7 p.m. (Doors open at 6 p.m.) Mayor Anthony A. Williams's 2004 State of the District Address. At the Lincoln Theatre, 1215 U St. NW. Also, live on City Cable 16 and at <http://www.dc.gov>.

7:30 p.m. North Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association. Monthly meeting. City Council Member Sharon Ambrose (D-Ward 6) will discuss liquor related legislation. At Lane Memorial CME Church, 14th & C Streets NE.

## **Thursday, February 5**

The 50 Most Influential Black Films. Panelists will include the National Council of Negro Women (possibly Dr. Dorothy Height or Cheryl Cooper) and the Slave Descendants Freedom Society (discussing genealogy). Filmmakers Michael and Christine Swanson (Faith Filmworks) will present "All About You." The documentary "Unchained Memories: Readings from the Slave Narratives" will be presented. At Visions, ADDRESS???. <http://www.flowfoundation.org>.

## **Saturday, February 7**

8 p.m. (repeats Feb. 8 at 4 p.m.) Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington, D.C. The chorus celebrates 20 years of singing boldly, with a concert featuring composers Toby Tate and Dr. Ysaye Maria Barnwell, among others. Also includes six movements of Robert Maggio's "Quilt Panels," inspired by the AIDS Memorial Quilt. Tickets \$20, available from Lambda Rising, Capitol Hill Arts Workshop, Ticketplace, or from 546-1549. Some complimentary tickets available for those who cannot easily access the arts. Tonight's performance will be interpreted for the deaf. At the Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church, 4th Street & Independence Avenue SE. <http://www.lgcw.org>.

## **Ongoing**

10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Feb. 3 and weekdays through Feb. 27. Also, at noon on Feb. 14 & 21. Going the Distance. This musical play is about two African American athletes who succeeded against all odds. Jesse Owens, son of sharecroppers, broke 4 world records in 1936 — a painful back injury couldn't stop him. Wilma Rudolph was considered crippled as a child, but she became the 1st American woman to win three gold medals in the 1960 Olympics. Adults \$5; children (2-16) \$4. The Smithsonian Associates Discovery Theater, Arts & Industries Building, Discovery Theater (west door) For tickets, call 357-1500. <http://www.discoverytheater.org>. §

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