

the Downtown Citizen

DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009

Carmine's Neighborhood Meeting

Miles E. Groves, DNA

The Alicart Restaurant Group is bringing Carmine's, a family style Italian restaurant to 7th St. between D & E street in the space many had hoped would contain a grocery store. Carmine's will serve up to 700 people and will create 220 new jobs for the city.

The Downtown Neighborhood Association is organizing this meeting, hosted by the Clara Barton Condominium Association, for tonight, Tues. Oct. 27, at 7pm. Jeffrey Bank,

the Alicart Chief Executive Officer will meet, discuss their plans and business model, and answer questions.

Residents from Clara Barton, Lansburgh, Lafayette, and Terrell Place are encouraged to come. The meeting is open to all downtown residents.

For more information on this company and to view Jeffrey Bank's discussion of Carmine's business model, watch the video online at: <http://video.foxbusiness.com>. ■

CARMINE'S
the Alicart groupsm



Bumper-to-bumper rush-hour traffic on New York Ave./Route 50 is filled with 18-wheeler trucks, buses and thousands of cars. The DDOT speed camera at the corner of New Jersey Ave. and New York Ave. (above, right) suggests that many motorists regularly disobey the speed signs and traffic signals. The intersection is not child safe.

Not Exactly A 'Safe Route to School'

New DCPS Plan to migrate Ward 2 students across Route 50 and 395 Access is flawed

Trisha Agee (at right) is a very effective crossing guard at the corner of 5th & P Streets NW. The intersection is calm by DC standards, but Agee still has her hands full managing aggressive caffeine-driven morning motorists who would otherwise make this intersection hazardous for the hundreds of students at the Scott Montgomery/KIPP WILL campus.



Martin Moulton, CCCA

Many pre-kindergarten through fourth grade students, most under 4 feet tall, will cross busy New York Ave. by foot under a DCPS plan to send Scott Montgomery ES students to a new school next year. The plan sends the Ward 2 students to the new Walker Jones ES in Ward 6.

Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Ev-

ans' staffer, Ruth Werner, attended the Oct. 21 public meeting at Walker Jones ES, located on New Jersey Ave., between K St. and New York Ave. to better understand the public sentiment on a variety of issues.

Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner Lena Brown (ANC 6C03), who attended the meeting, along with

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UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS



Above, Councilmember Jack Evans helped commemorate the renovation of the historic Asbury Dwellings senior residences in Shaw.

Ward 2 Councilmember Evans will be the discussion leader at the Nov. 10 DNA meeting and the Nov. 24 CCCA meeting.

DC Council Hearing on DCPS with Mayor Adrian Fenty and Chancellor Michelle Rhee

At 10am, Thursday October 29, DCPS Chancellor Michelle Rhee and Mayor Adrian Fenty will be in front of the DC City Council discussing the reform efforts underway in the DC Public Schools. John A Wilson Building, Room 500, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. The hearing will cover the objectives, process and results of the DCPS 2009-2010 Equalization Plan and how the accompanying reductions in both school budgets and teaching workforce are impacting the District's children, youth and their families.

Chancellor Rhee's Early Childhood Education Program Community Forum

6:30-8pm Wed., Oct. 28. All parents and community members are invited to give their input at the Chancellor's Community Forum. The event will be held at Francis-Stevens Education Campus, 2425 N St NW, WDC 20037.

Tulip Planting on 9th St NW

9am, Saturday, October 31. Shaw Treebox Tulip Planting. Join a group of local residents planning to put tulip bulbs on 9th Street NW between N and Rhode Island Ave. Meet at Old City Green at 9th & N St NW.

Halloween Haunt at Common Good City Farm

11am-1pm, Saturday, October 31. Bring the whole family and join your LeDroit Park, Shaw, Eckington, Bloomingdale and Howard neighbors for some Halloween fun! Enjoy music, pumpkin picking, pumpkin painting, cider tasting, apple treats and of course, a costume contest. This event is free. 2025 3rd Street, NW (3rd & V Streets). CommonGoodCityFarm.org

Help Bread for the City and the New Community for Children obtain vital grants

Bread for the City and the New Community for Children are in the running for grants from Tom's of Maine. The top five vote-getters receive the cash prize. Supporters can vote once a day until October 30 at: <http://bit.ly/u899W>.

Marion St Garden Project

The planning meeting for the Marion St Garden Project will take place on Thursday, November 5 at the Kennedy Recreation Center. Coming in Spring 2010, City Blossoms and Common Good City Farm, two local greening organizations, will begin to build an inter generational gardening project on the empty lot on Marion Street, between P & Q Streets. Organizers will work with nearby schools, community centers and neighbors to create a fantastic space for growing vegetables, herbs and native flowering plants and possible hold outdoor theatre productions. For information and updates, go to: CityBlossoms.org or CommonGoodCityFarm.org, or contact Rebecca at rebecca@cityblossoms.org.

Holiday Feast of Sharing

9:30am-2:30 pm, Wed., Nov. 25, Washington Convention Center, Hall D, 801 Mt. Vernon Place NW. Thanksgiving meal, health screenings, lots of giveaways, job fair, and training and employment opportunities. No RSVP necessary, All are welcome. For info, please email feastofsharing@hotmail.com.

Scott Montgomery ES Family Reading Night

6:30pm, Wed., Nov. 18. Scott Montgomery ES, 421 P St NW. To contribute, go to: www.BenefitEvents.com/auctions/montgomeryes.

Bike Light GiveAways

On Oct. 29 and Nov 5, WABA, in conjunction with the DDOT, will give out 600 free light sets and help make streets safer for nighttime cyclists. Get more details at: WABA.org

Downtown Neighborhood Association (DCDNA.org)

The final DNA meeting for 2009 is scheduled for Tuesday Nov. 10 at Calvary Baptist Church. The lead discussion leader will be Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans. He will be followed by Hadiyah Jordan, and Associate with Justice & Sustainability Associates. Her firm is working with the Infrastructure Project Management Administration, a division of the District Department of Transportation, to manage the Downtown DCBID Streetscape and Streetlight project that received stimulus funding. The meeting will include an update for PSA101W. RSVP to miles@milesgroves.com.

Convention Center Community Association (CCCA-online.org)

At the Nov. 24 CCCA meeting, at the Ken-

nedy Recreation Center, attendees will elect new officers to serve on the board from those nominated during the Oct. 27 meeting. Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans has confirmed his attendance. At-Large Councilmember Kwame Brown has been invited to speak as well.

Mt Vernon Square Neighborhood Association (MVSNA.org)

7:30pm, Nov 17, Mt Vernon Sq Neighborhood Association monthly meeting, Yale Laundry, 437 NY Ave NW.

Blagden Alley-Naylor Court (BANC)

Blagden Alley-Naylor Court Association Monthly Meeting. 929 M St NW. Gathering 6:45, Meeting 7pm, Thurs., Nov. 19.

WCCA

5pm, Thurs., Nov. 19. The Washington Convention Center Advisory committee will meet to discuss Convention Center and surrounding community issues.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

ANC 2C is to discuss DDOT, MPD and DCPS issues related to the proposed closing of Scott Montgomery ES at the Nov. 4 meeting, to be held at 6:30pm at the Kennedy Recreation Center. Authorities from DDOT and DCPS will attend. For more information, go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ANC2C04>.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2F

ANC2F monthly meeting, 7pm, November 4 ANC2F Community Development Committee (CDC) meeting, 7pm, Nov. 18. ANC2F and CDC meetings are held at Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle NW.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6C

7pm, Nov. 4, ANC 6C Planning & Zoning Committee meeting, NPR, 635 Mass. Ave NW. 7pm, Nov. 11, ANC 6C monthly meeting. Heritage Foundation, 214 Mass Ave NE.

Downtown Development district

The District is proposing an overhaul of the zoning overlay system in the Downtown Development district. To view the document go to: http://assets.bizjournals.com/cms_media/washington/pdf/Downtown%20zoning%20notice.pdf. There will be a public hearing regarding the changes: 6:30pm, Monday, Nov. 2, Office of Zoning Hearing Room, 441 4th St, NW, Suite 220. Mail written testimony to: Secretary of the Zoning Commission, Office of Zoning, Suite 210, 441 4th St NW, WDC 20001. Include the case number (08-06-10) and a daytime telephone number. Or call (202) 727-6311.

PSA 308

6:30pm, Nov 12, Police Service Area (PSA) 308 meeting, Kennedy Recreation Center, 1401 7th Street NW.

Farmers Market: Penn Quarter Jewel at Risk

Miles E. Groves, DNA

There has been strong support of the Penn Quarter Farmers Market given the emails that have been received and the comments on our blog. At last week's ANC 6C meeting, a motion in support of the Penn Quarter Farmers Market was passed. There was no hearing this month because the person requesting the change was unavailable. He is expected to attend the ANC 6C Transportation and Public Space committee meeting and the regular ANC 6C meeting in November to press the request. More on this will be forthcoming once this agenda item is confirmed. What is certain is that this market enjoys strong support from residents and workers throughout our downtown neighborhood.

The Penn Quarter Farmers Market that is operated by Fresh Farms is a neighborhood jewel serving residents and workers across or downtown neighborhoods. The Market has operated seasonally for seven years on Thursday afternoons on the north end of 8th Street between D and E Streets. It is a great place to go and observe the crowded market a patrons snack and buy from the breadth of the products that can be found.

When the market is not operating, 8th Street is usually quiet with a use that seems dominated by on-street parking and parking garages from the surrounding mixed-use buildings. It is an abbreviated street that is interrupted by the museums, pedestrian malls, the Carnegie Library and the Convention Center. For many, in a city that seems dominated by automobiles trying to get in and out of our neighborhood, this use is a nice pedestrian respite. No doubt, some who lose on-street parking are inconvenienced when the market is open. And, those leaving the garages from the commercial and mixed use

buildings who want to go north for a block on 8th Street must take different paths. But, for the majority who live and walk to work or work and take the metro this is market is a great comfort.

Recently, Mr. Ken Crerar, president of The Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers contacted the Public Space Manager at the Department of Transportation Public Space Management Office requesting that the Market's permit be rescinded. Mr. Crerar suggests that the market find another suitable location elsewhere in Penn Quarter. The problem he cites is traffic congestion on 7th and 9th Street can be avoided by using 8th Street northward to E Street where he connects with 12th Street to go Massachusetts Avenue. On Thursdays the congestion costs Mr. Crerar up to 15 minutes. And for this 15 minutes, he wants our Market moved despite the number of people it serves.

He suggests that this market be put in front of the Market Square buildings. However, this space is much smaller than the space now used by the market since the area is either the Navy Memorial or a small space between the two buildings. He also suggests that parking be taken from F Street and the promenade on the south side of the Smithsonian Galleries be used. This would be a great idea except that F Street, unlike 8th Street is very busy with parking, pedestrian and vehicular traffic. And, unlike 8th Street, the promenade is not city controlled. But, it is a location with possibilities. However,

with the inclusion of the SmartBike racks on F Street and the need to keep access on the South side of the museum open, this suggestion has its on problems.

Jo-Ann Neuhaus, executive director with the Penn Quarter Neighborhood Association notes that the pedestrian focus of 8th Street is consistent with the Pennsylvania Avenue Plan. She is a neighborhood advocate who can claim the honor of "being there" when the plans for Pennsylvania Avenue Downtown were developed. She points out that the Pennsylvania Avenue Plan states:

"Along Eighth Street, as on Square 407, new development would reinforce the pedestrian character of the street . . . Although vehicular traffic would be allowed, Eighth Street would be treated as a "special street" under the Corporation's Side Street Improvement Plan, with improvements designed to enhance the residential environment."

Several residents are concerned the possible loss of 15 minutes could force the entire neighborhood to adapt to the one individual rather than the one individual adapting for a market that serves so many and has become the Jewel of Penn Quarter. The Downtown Neighborhood Association agrees with this concern and objects to any movement by the city to move our market. As noted above, this intended to serve as a "special street" designed to enhance the residential environment. ■

DNA October Meeting Notes

The Downtown Neighborhood Association had a great meeting October 13 with DC Attorney General Peter Nickels and At-Large Councilmember Phil Mendelson. There will be more on information about that meeting in a coming announcement and on DCDNA.org.

Our DC Ward Councilmembers

Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans
DCCouncil.washington.dc.us/jackevans
(202) 724-8058 | jackevans@dccouncil.us

Ward 6 Councilmember Tommy Wells
DCCouncil.washington.dc.us/tommywells
TommyWells.org
(202) 724-8072 | twells@dccouncil.us



Photo courtesy TomWilliamsPhotography.com

On September 21, Mayor Adrian Fenty, Ward 2 Councilman Jack Evans, architect Alfred Liu, other dignitaries and developers celebrated the completion of the restoration of Chinatown's historic Friendship Arch. This is the largest single span Chinese arch in the world, apparently constructed during the Barry Administration. The arch had not been cleaned in 20 years, but now stands as a brilliant symbol which the Asian community and the entire city can take pride in.

Take a Short Walk to Long View for the Arts and Events

Long View Gallery opened its new exhibit and special event space in the heart of D.C. with a grand opening celebration October 22, 2009. The new gallery space is located at 1234 Ninth St. NW. Guests enjoyed an exciting and chic event with food and refreshments while viewing works by featured artists. Music by DJ Dred, followed by Dis-sident Display.

Since opening in 2006, Long View has been operating one block

north of their new space on Ninth, with a second location in Sperryville, VA.

The Gallery's focus has been on promoting the Washington area's burgeoning art community by highlighting local and regional artists on its exhibit walls. Through its many special events, the Gallery has brought artists into the community and hope to expand on that platform with the larger space. Monthly exhibitions as well as a growing perma-

nent collection will showcase a diverse group of both established and emerging new artists.

Long View Gallery will continue to present Washington D.C.'s fresh talent. The knowledgeable staff offers design consultations, delivery and access to in-house master framers. Long View Gallery's new home boasts a bevy of desirable attributes. With 5,000 sq ft and 20 ft ceilings, the space can hold up to 400 guests for corpo-

rate events and private functions.

With the historic Blagden Alley, the Gallery a premiere spot for hosting and gathering. The urban and upscale feel that lends itself to the space has already attracted attention from clients like Lexus, which hosted a Lexus Listening Lounge event series featuring the legendary sounds of Motown in early October.

For updates on shows and gallery information, go to: longviewgallery.com or call (202) 232-4788. ■

'MyRadius' maps local businesses in Shaw and beyond

MyRadius was created by a small business owner for small business owners to have better exposure to area residents and so those residents can have better information about local offerings. MyRadius is intended to be a useful platform for communi-

ty-based news and information. The pilot version of the platform is being implemented in October 2009 in the Mt. Vernon/Convention Center neighborhood in Washington DC.

Local business owners, spearheaded by Joanna Robinson of Lu-

nar Massage, have created MyRadius to help local residents stay better connected with the businesses and resources in our neighborhood.

Log on to the MyRadius web site or pick up a MyRadius postcard or refrigerator magnet at a local re-

tail shop today and get to know the neighborhood a little better. If you own a business and would like to be included on the next map or you want MyRadius in your neighborhood, contact info@myradiusonline.com or call (202) 468-2424. ■

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long view gallery
Long View Gallery
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Wagtime
Pet Spa & Boutique
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Modern Liquors
Fine Wines & Spirits
Your local upscale wine and liquor store
(202) 289-1414

CORDUROY
Corduroy
Chef Tom Power's simple cooking
(202) 589-0699

TG Cigar
Cigars, tobacco, smoking lounge
(202) 289-8684

azi's cafe
Arzy's Café
Illy coffee, breakfast and lunch, free WiFi
(202) 232-0001

MARUKA
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Maruka Gallery & Boutique
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Mayor Fenty (above and far right), with a time of 9:50.8, and his brother Shawn, at 9:14.8, placed 7th and 3rd, respectively, in the Sister to Sister “Bike a Major Artery” time trials on Sunday, October 11. This event was a part of the first annual Bike For the Heart event held downtown and sponsored by Sister to Sister’s Founder and Chairman Irene Pollin. This year’s event raised over \$300,000 to help fight heart disease the #1 cause of death in women. Mayor Fenty finished the Nation’s Triathlon in September.

DC is for Downtown Cycling

Washington is one of the top bicyclist-friendly cities in the nation and it shows



Photo by Vikrum Aiyer, EOM

Above, our cyclist Mayor Adrian Fenty celebrated the opening of the Union Station BikeStation with representatives from the Washington Area Bicyclists Association (WABA.org): Executive Director Eric Gilliland (left) and WABA Board Members Martin Moulton (Board Vice President) and David Bono.

Martin Moulton, CCA

Washington DC is one of the four leading bike-friendly cities in the nation. The opening of the country’s largest and most expensive bike stations in October helped solidify that status. The popular SmartBike program, the first of its kind in the United States, which started more than a year ago, is due to expand over the next few years. SmartBikes provide residents and visitors to the city with one of the “greenest”, easiest and most inexpensive ways to move around downtown areas and throughout the metropolitan region.

It certainly doesn’t hurt that the

District’s Mayor Adrian M. Fenty is an avid cyclist and triathlete.

The city is also home to the Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA.org), which is one of the top five bicycle advocacy organizations in the country.

DC cyclists — affectionately nicknamed “peddlers” by some Metropolitan Police officers — still face a host of challenges in the District.

Not all streets in the city are bike friendly. The recent K Street Transitway study included an alternative plan that would incorporate bicycle lanes into the K St corridor between 9th and 23rd Streets. But

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Ward 6 Councilman Tommy Wells (above, left), who often gets around by bike, was instrumental in bringing the BikeStation to Union Station, which is in his ward.

5TH STREET
ACE HARDWARE

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Mon - Saturday 8 am to 8pm
Sunday 10am to 6pm

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Downtown
BIKESTOP



Students from KIPP WILL Academy charter school, co-located on the Scott Montgomery campus, volunteered to help make the hard choices in the Heart of DC Dog Show competitions. Contests included “Best Kisser” (the owners kissed their dogs...) and “Best in Show.” There was stiff competition among downtown and Shaw/Mt Vernon Sq residents who brought their four-legged family members to prance around, strut their stuff and lick face.



First Annual Heart of DC Picnic

Miles E. Groves, DNA

We could not have had a nicer day for our First Annual Heart of DC Picnic that was held on Saturday September 19 on the grounds of the Carnegie Library. It was our first time to use the lawns surrounding the Carnegie Library and we were graced with a beautiful day.

This idea was hatched by the leaders of three civic associations serving Downtown, Shaw, and Mount Vernon Place. These were Martin Moulton, president of the Convention Center Citizen Association, Miles Groves, president of the Downtown Neighborhood Association and Cary Silverman, the president of the Mount Vernon Place Neighborhood Association. The premise was that the these associations had common is-

ssues that could be better served through greater collaboration, With this, the idea of a neighborhood picnic was born.

There were balloons, mounted police, bouncing children, story-telling, music, a dog show and so much more on the grounds of the Carnegie Library on Saturday September 19.

The organizers estimate that at least 600 residents attended consuming sandwiches from Safeway, hot dogs, burgers, chips, and cookies.

City council representatives attended with Councilmembers Jack Evans (Ward 2) and Tommy Wells (Ward 6) along with constituent service staff spent time visiting, listening, and catching-up with many of the picnic attendees. The Mayor’s office was represented with Out-

reach and Services Specialist Francisco Fimbres joining in on the festivities.

The success was assured by the many volunteers who helped coordinate, collect donations for the picnic and the raffle, and staff the food and cooking stations. The business community provided strong support to help fund the rental of the city lawns, food, and many of the events that occurred throughout the day. These supporters include Akridge, The Arts at 5th and I, BB&T, City Center, Douglas Development, Gallery Place, Gould Development, JBG Development and Safeway.

A Raffle was held to provide support for Scott Montgomery School Reading Program. Local businesses that provided prizes for the

raffle included the Penn Quarter Sports Tavern, Newseum, Absolute Thai Restaurant, Momiji Japanese Restaurant and Good Libations. Winners included residents from Downtown/Penn Quarter, Mount Vernon Place, and Shaw. These were Elizabeth Miller, Kebrab Tekamriam, Tiana Leake, Philip Sanguinetti, Thais Austin and Bill McLeod. The organizers expect that a check for \$1,000 will be awarded to the reading program.

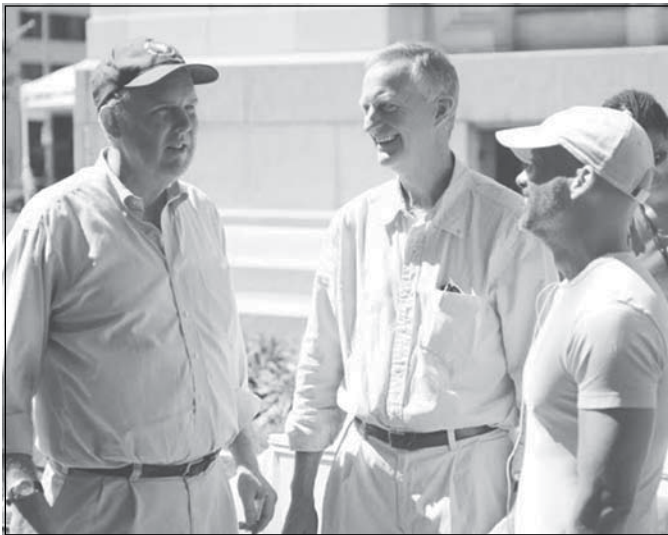
The date for the Second Annual Heart of DC Picnic has not been set, but the organizers and volunteers believe that this year’s success was just the beginning partnership that will work together to serve residents and local business in more ways for years to come. ■



Picnic photos courtesy TomWilliamsPhotography.com, unless indicated otherwise. Yoga gurus from Shakti Mind Body Studio Yoga, at 1015 1/2 7th Street NW - 2nd Floor, were on hand to lead young and old in various exercises on the lawn at Mt Vernon Place. MPD horse Seamus and his patrol officer were on hand to make sure everyone had a safe and enjoyable time. Above right, Balloon artist Katie, of KatieBalloons.com, made a lot of new friends with her amazing and colorful creations.



THANK YOU! The Heart of DC Picnic organizers extend our heartfelt thanks to: The Arts at 5th & I, Douglas Development Corporation, The JBG Companies, Safeway, CityVista, BB&T, IBEW, Akridge, Penn Quarter Sports Tavern, Edens&Avant., Gallery Place, Mt Vernon Triangle CID, 5th Street Hardware, Chatman’s D’vine Bakery & Café, Census 2010, Results The Gym, Chinatown Coffee Company, First Cup Café, Euromarket, Primal Fitness, Good Libations Guilford Liquors, Wagtime, AARP Legal Counsel For The Elderly, Dr Ximena Hartsock and the DC Department of Parks And Recreation, Giant Grocery, Friends of Watha T Daniel Library, Fetch! Pet Care, Furpals, Washington Convention Center Advisory Committee, The Historical Society Of Washington DC, Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans, and Ward 6 Councilmember Tommy Wells



Councilmember Wells and Evans and Mr Evans' staffer Jeff Coudriet.



Eric Riley, Watha T Daniel/Shaw Library's chief librarian, wears many hats. He's a guitar virtuoso and master story teller.

More Picnic Pics



iPhone snapshot by MrM
The Heart of DC picnic was just one of many great events going on in the area. Here, Scott Montgomery ES grandparent and community volunteer, serves up a plate of hearty soul food for attendees at the annual 2ndNWCoop picnic.



Heart of DC Picnic organizer and DNA President Miles Groves, here with Emily Yates from the DC Office of Planning, enjoyed the great weather and large turnout from the community.



Guests enjoyed the free food provided by neighbors and local businesses like Safeway.



Heart of DC Picnic organizer and Mt Vernon Sq Neighborhood Association Vice President Arsine "Si" Kailian (ar right), her husband Jefferson and neighbor Sergei were in charge of food.



Asbury Dwellings, at 1616 Marion Street, owned by Asbury United Methodist Church, at 11th & K Streets, is a part of the African American Heritage Trail.

Asbury Dwellings Senior Residences Get Restored

Alexander M. Padro

Commissioner, ANC 2C01

The building that we know as Asbury Dwellings got its start as the Manual Training School for Boys, part of the segregated White school system of Washington, DC.

Designed by Henry Ives Cobb, the architect who designed many of the Gothic Revival buildings on the University of Chicago campus, the school was built in two stages. Originally, the entire school consisted of a building with its main entrance at Seventh Street and Rhode Island Avenue, NW, and extending about half a city block along those two streets. This building, named McKinley Technical High School, was named in memory of

William McKinley, who had been assassinated while in the office as president of the United States. A subsequent expansion completed the building we are familiar with today.

This complex included a foundry building, which survives today, adjacent to the Lafayette Apartments at 1605 Seventh Street, NW.

The school became deteriorated, and rather than renovate it, a new school was constructed, and in 1928, the White students were relocated to the current McKinley campus in the Eckington neighborhood. The old school was transferred to the Black school system as the new home of Shaw Junior High School, which had previously been housed at M Street School/Dunbar High School. Shaw, named for Robert Gould Shaw, the White colonel of the African American Massachusetts 54th Infantry during the Civil War, was the city's first junior high school for Black students.

In the decades that followed, Washington Color Field painter Alma Thomas taught art at Shaw, and the pride of the neighborhood,

the Shaw Marching Band, was instituted under longtime principal Percy L. Ellis, Jr.

In 1966, the attendance boundaries of Shaw Junior High School were used to define an urban renewal area, stretching from North Capitol Street at the east to 15th Street at the west, and from M Street at the south to Florida Avenue and U Street at the north. The name Shaw was formally applied to the area for the first time. The school building had been neglected for decades, and the community rallied around the school using the rallying cry, "Shameful Shaw." In 1979, the students moved to a new building at 925 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, constructed as part of urban renewal.

After the DC Public Schools sold the old school building to Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church, an early adaptive reuse of the school preserved the historic building and

resulted in the creation of Asbury Dwellings, a senior citizens residence, which opened in 1982.

In 2008, the old McKinley/Shaw school, now

Asbury Dwellings, was added to the District of Columbia Inventory of Historic Sites and nominated to the National Register of Historic Places by the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Review Board.

Note: October 2009 saw the completed renovations of the historic home. Significant internal and external property improvements were completed over the past year. As sponsor, Asbury United Methodist Church rededicated the property as a quality residence for senior citizens. Curtex construction made upgrades to the exterior of the building, systems, common areas and installed new energy efficient appliances as a part of the renovation of all residential units. ■

Downtown "Peddlers"

Continued from page 5
the interests of commercial property owners and businesses along K Street may carry the most weight for the redevelopment the corridor.

Some have suggested that incorporating one-way bike lanes, or protected "cycle track" lanes on "Eye" and L Streets might be a safer, more reasonable bike-freindly and functional option.

The Metropolitan Branch bike trail, which connects to Union Station has not been completed, but city officials and Mayor Fenty recently committed themselves to getting it done as soon as possible.

The BikeStation cost \$4 million and will house approximately 135 bicycles. It provides peddlers with secure storage (for an annual \$96 membership or \$2 daily fee), bike

rentals, a changing area, and repair and maintenance services.

This all helps to make Union Station a multi modal transit hub adding to its train, Metro rail and bus, and taxi options. This makes it easier for users to leave personal cars at home and enjoy being car free.

WABA hosts and co-sponsors entertaining and educational events throughout the year to promote cycling. On Oct. 29 and Nov. 5, WABA will be giving away free bike lights to help those who com-

mute in and around the city during the evenings.

Aside from WABA, there are many other resources around DC for cyclists. The Bike House / Casa de la bici, at 3917 Georgia Ave. NW, in Petworth, provides bike clinics for peddlers young and old. You can also get a good cup of coffee at Qualia Coffee conveniently located at the same address.

Online resources and discussion groups include TheWashCycle.com and DC.TheCityFix.com. ■

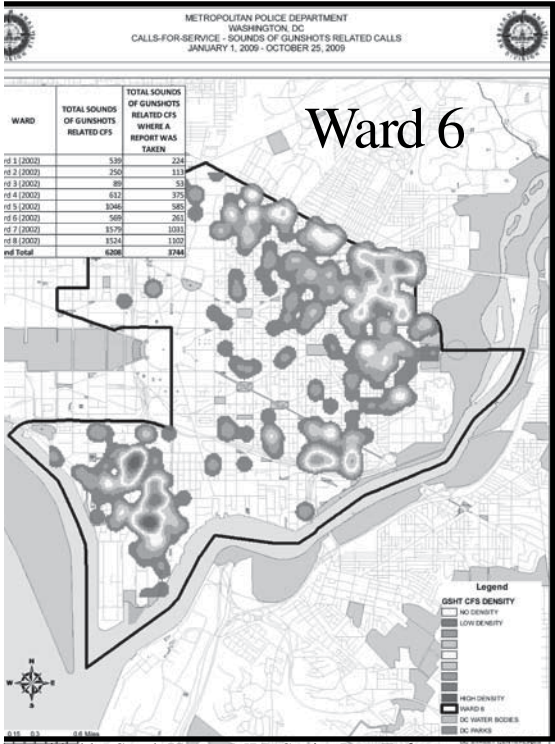
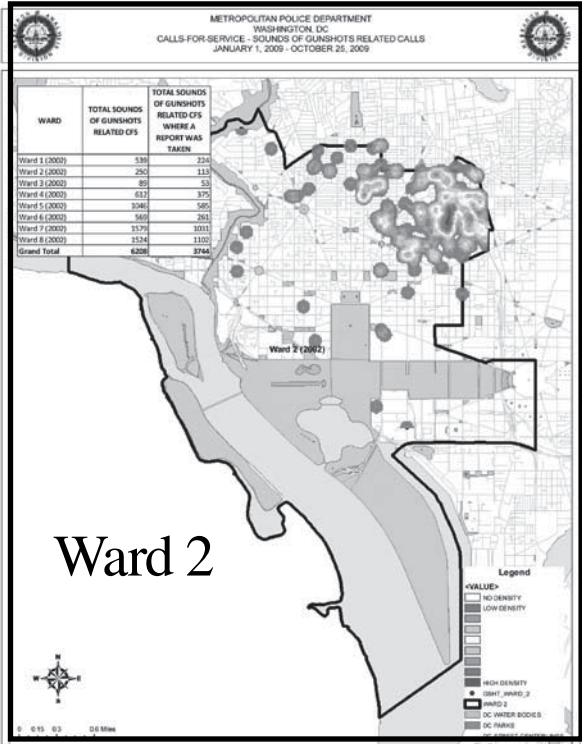
MPD Reports: Sounds of Gunshots in Wards 2 & 6

This year, there have been 819 Calls for Service relating to sounds of gun shots

According to the Metropolitan Police Department's Research Division (www.mpd.dc.gov/research and <http://crimemap.dc.gov>), since January 1, 2009 to October 25, 2009, in Ward 2, there have been 250 total gunshot-related calls for service (113 had a MPD report filed taken); in Ward 6, there were 569 gunshot-related calls (261 of these had a report filed).

The crime density maps, at right, show the areas where gunshots have been heard most often. Other maps — available on the CCCA-online.org/blog site — also illustrate the numbers of calls for service related to drug related offenses.

In Ward 2, there were 561 drug related calls (only 18 were documented by follow up MPD reports); in Ward 6, there were 1062 drug related calls for service (only 32 documented by MPD reports).



Maps created and provided by Sarah Hoyos, MPD Senior Law Enforcement Analyst

Scott Montgomery

Continued from page 1
Commissioner Mark Dixon (ANC 6C02), expressed concern that no one from Ward 6 Councilmember Tommy Wells' office was available to be on hand for the hearing.

Parents, school staff, and community leaders testified on the plan Oct. 21 at the public hearing held at Walker Jones. Residents expressed concern for the safety of hundreds of children who will cross New York Ave. (Route 50) during the morning rush hour to get to school and during the afternoon rush hour to get home when after-school programs let out.

DCPS Chancellor Michelle Rhee is expected to submit her final recommendation to Mayor Adrian M. Fenty by Nov. 15. Fenty is expected to approve or reject the recommendation by Dec. 15 at the latest.

Rhee's consolidation scheme aims to better utilize District resources and to eliminate inefficiencies, yet the school closings that have occurred over the past several years have been contentious.

Scott Montgomery teacher Frances Evangelista questions the proposal to move the school's students to a "lesser performing school" in a "challenged" neighborhood.

"[It] will necessitate our kids crossing over an impossibly congested major thoroughfare," Evangelista says. "There are no school buses in DC, so all our kids will be walking. Many of them alone."

DCPS official Margery Yeager announced that Rhee would meet with police and transit officials this week to review school safety issues related to the transfer plan. Yeager stated Rhee would not recommend any plan that leaves students vulnerable to traffic or crime hazards. DDOT officials have stated that they have planned pedestrian safety improvements in the works.

Evangelista says that Walker Jones is under-enrolled despite a massive investment to upgrade the school. "The new campus is new and shiny and state of the art but under-enrolled by hundreds. Parents have chosen not to send their

many staff and parents right now is that the system is trying to force matriculation [at Walker Jones] by closing our school."

"The sting is felt by all because everyone knows that this is not something the affluent in our city face," Evangelista says. "This is an insult reserved for the urban poor. The parents are happy with what we have accomplished at our present school, heartened that the needs of their kids are finally being met, and are stating that they will not go [to Walker Jones]. They will spread out in a number of different ways, principally to charter schools."

That has been the concern of others for several years. In 2006, the school district eliminated the fifth and sixth grades at Scott Montgomery and moved the KIPP charter school onto the Scott Montgomery campus. KIPP then expanded to include the fifth and sixth grades. That plan drew criticism from some school board members and education activists. They said that by arranging for students to enroll at a charter school, the school system was furthering its own demise.

SCHOOL BOARD VICE PRESIDENT Carolyn Graham in April 2006. Graham questioned how the plan would help the "public school system whose funding is tied to enrollment."

DCPS staff say that 85 percent of Scott Montgomery parents who responded to a recent survey indicated that they would not send their children to Walker Jones. Some of those parents will likely send their students to other schools or to KIPP if it expands yet again to include younger students.

If only a few Montgomery students transfer to Walker Jones, many stake holders reckon there will likely be a reduction in force of teachers transferring from Montgomery to Walker Jones. Thus, DCPS will lose many of the very same teachers who have worked successfully to connect with and improve the academic performance of students in the neighborhood.

DCPS announced Oct. 23 that it is also proposing to close the former McGogney Elementary School building. The consolidated MC Terrell/McGogney school will remain open.

BRIEFLY ...

Downtown Parks & Open Space Survey

The DC Office of Planning along with federal partners and stakeholders are examining access, availability, and programming for park and open spaces in DC's Downtown and the emerging high-density neighborhoods north of Massachusetts Ave. The objective of this examination is to understand what type of improvements will better serve Downtown's workers and growing residential population. The examination will look at both how we can better use existing parks such as Mt. Vernon Square and the many triangle parks, such as Gompers Park, but also plan for new parks and open spaces in areas where they are needed. By completing this survey you will help the Office of Planning better understand how to plan for these parks to better serve area residents and workers. Take the survey at: www.Planning.DC.gov/planning/cwp/view,A,1423,Q,647972.asp.

For more information, contact Thor Nelson at (202) 741-5241 or thor.nelson@dc.gov

Downtown Streetscape Project

Work has finally begun on the Downtown DCBID Streetscape and Streetlight project. The first areas impacted downtown will be D and E Streets between 6th and 7th Street. The work will include but not limited to upgrading of streetlights, wheelchair ramps, trees spaces as well as repairable sidewalks, gutters and resurfacing of road pavement. This is a project that the Downtown Neighborhood Association provided input and aggressively worked for funding and project approval.

Vault Lease Issues

We recently learned that some developers entered into underground vault agreements that may present long-term liabilities to some condominium associations or particular owners who have assigned rights to space within these vaults. These agreements assign limited rights to this space, but preserve the city's ultimate right to take the space if needed or to charge rent for the space. There is little clarity to this beyond some residents paid for parking spaces without realizing that the space belonged to the city and that the city had the right to charge rent. So far, two buildings have been identified as having such agreements. In one case (555 Massachusetts), the city charged the residents for back rent and demanded rent for 2010. These residents were unaware that they had purchased public space. In another case (Madrigal Lofts) the public space is mentioned in their bylaws but residents seem unaware that their agreement

gives the city the right to charge rent.

It is advised associations with buildings that opened after 2004 check to see if they have public vault liabilities. Currently both Ward 2 and Ward 6 councilmembers Jack Evans and Tommy Wells are working to find resolution.

K Street Transitway

The K Street Environmental Assessment has been released for 30 days of public comments. The comment period will end October 30, 2009. (For previously published commentary, go to: GreaterGreaterWashington.org)

The proposed alternatives for the K Street Transitway are completely dependent on a grant from the competitive Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary multi modal grant program.

According to DDOT, The K Street Transitway will enhance the performance for all modes of movement: pedestrian, bicycle, transit, vehicles (resident, commuter, and visitor), taxi, and delivery services.

The goals of the project are to create a Great Street experience that is high-performing and safe for all modes, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit, and automobiles; ensure efficient management of loading and unloading areas and access to parking; reinforce K Street NW as a defining and organizing corridor for the city with connections to other great destinations north and south; and develop K Street as a signature green street, featuring highly innovative ways of achieving sustainability.

Specialized transit service to operate on the transitway, the DC Circulator's Georgetown to Union Station route, is already in place. For more background information, go to www.DDOT.DC.gov. Comments may be submitted via e-mail to KStreet.Comments@dc.gov.

OUR LOCAL INTERNET RESOURCES

Local web sites, blogs and listservs help you stay up to date with community information.

DCDNA.org

CCCA-online.org

LifeIn.MVSNA.org

ANC2F.org

MVTriangle.blogspot.com

PQLiving.com

DCBACA.wordpress.com

ShawMainStreets.com

ONEDCOnline.org

BreadfForTheCity.org

NCFC-DC.org

EmmausServices.org

CityBlossoms.org

CommonGoodCityFarm.org

DCCConvention.com

HistoryDC.org

My.Opera.com/haldavitt/blog

InShaw.com/blog

RenewShaw.com

SidraPractice.com

TheOther35Percent.blogspot.com

FriendsOfBundy.net

NonSuchBook.typepad.com

DCLibrary.org/watha

WathaTDaniel.blogspot.com

groups.yahoo.com/group/mvsna

groups.yahoo.com/group/ANC2C04

groups.yahoo.com/group/ShawNeighborhood

groups.yahoo.com/group/MarionStreetNeighbors

groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-3d

groups.yahoo.com/group/3DSubstation

groups.google.com/group/list-dcfoodforall



Fine dining in the library at "1508 Home Restaurant"

Find out more about Shaw's best kept not-so-secret supper club online at SidraPractice.com.



Restoration of historic
O Street Market

71,000 sq ft Giant
grocery market
(The largest grocery
store in the District)



80 Units of Affordable Senior Rental Housing

200-room hotel

8,000 sq ft restaurant

Market-rate rental units

Luxury high-end
condominiums

563 parking spaces

STUNNING. UNIQUE. EXCITING. — CityMarket at O
will meld the 21st century shopping experience with the charm of
the historic 1881 O Street Market — creating one of the most
extraordinary and interesting shopping venues on the East Coast.

Thanks to Mayor Adrian Fenty, Councilmember Jack Evans,
Councilmember Kwame Brown, Shaw Main Streets and the
local community in Shaw for all of your tireless support.

CityMarket at

Brought to the Historic
Shaw Community by

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