2ND ANNUAL WARD 7 DAY CELEBRATION
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2018—6 PM—6 PM
Join Councilmember Vincent Gray for the 2nd annual Ward 7 day celebration on Saturday, September 8. This year’s event will take place at the Marvin Gaye Park (5200 Foote St, NE) from Noon—6 PM and will feature live music, children’s games and activities for the entire family, resources and information sharing, free food, and much more.

This year’s partners include: Cedar Realty Group, DLSBD, East River Family Strengthening Collaborative, Ward 7 Action Partnership, Safety-way, and WACIF. Join in the celebration of the community’s vibrant fabric! For additional information contact Latisha R. Atkins at 202-741-0898.

DC FIFTH ANNUAL PAREN T AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SUMMIT—9/29/18
Parents and family members are invited to attend. The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is pleased to announce that the fifth annual DC Parent and Family Engagement Summit will be held on Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018, from 10 AM to 3 PM at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Mount Vernon Place NW, Washington, DC 20001. Information provided at the Summit will engage, inform, and empower parents and families to effectively support the highest level of quality education for all the children in the District of Columbia. The Summit will also allow parents to provide feedback to OSSE on the state education plan.

For more information or questions, please contact Valerie Brown at Valerie.Brown@dc.gov or at (202) 299-2093. Click here to register.

DC FIRST FRIDAYS SEPTEMBER 7, 2018
Parents and family members are invited to attend. "DC First Fridays” event will be held on September 7, 2018, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Lloyd D. Smith Center, located at 3939 Benning Road NE, Washington, DC 20019. The Guest Speaker is Mr. Dana Sheppard, Acting Deputy Director and Associate Commissioner Risk Finance Bureau, DC Depart- ment of Insurance, Secur ities and Banking (DISB). The Topic of Discussion is “Coffee and Capital.”

Click here to RSVP. Plan to attend and network!! Contact Valerie Mercer at 202-650-5621 for additional information.

CALVARY WOMEN’S SERVICES SEPTEMBER OPEN HOUSE 9/21/18
You are invited to visit the facility on Good Hope Road! See what makes Calvary Women’s Services unique. If you are interested in learning more about the women served. Calvary Women’s Services empowers home- less women in Washington, DC, to transform their lives through housing, health, education, and employment programs. Guests will be led on a personal tour by a staff member. Drop in any time from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Location—1217 Good Hope Road SE, Washington, DC 20020. Click here to RSVP.

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL CHOLESTEROL EDUCATION MONTH
What is cholesterol? - Cholesterol is a waxy, fat-like substance found in your body and many foods. Your body needs cholesterol to function normally and makes all that you need. Too much cholesterol can build up in your arteries, narrowing them and making it hard for blood to flow through. You can reduce your risk by adopting healthy lifestyle changes.

• Low-fat and high-fiber food (Eat more fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and whole grains).
• For adults, getting at least 2 hours and 30 minutes of vigorous physical activity a week. For those aged 6-17, getting 1 hour or more of physical activity each day.
• Maintain a healthy weight.
• Don’t smoke or quit if you smoke.

Read more.

CHANGES TO THE INCLUSIONARY ZONING**** YOU MUST NOW REGISTER FOR CLASSES
DC’s Inclusionary Zoning (IZ) Program helps city residents rent and buy places to live when they can’t afford market-rate prices. DC Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) disposes of IZ units through a lottery process. Households interested in purchasing or leasing an IZ home must take an Inclusionary Zoning Orientation class provided by DHCD on the 4th Thursday of every month at 12:00 PM or 2:30 PM. Click here to register on line or call 202-650-5604 for more information or to register by phone.

JOIN OUR MAIL LIST! Don’t miss important events and information. Click here to join.
Public schools in the nation’s capital fared poorly in a nationwide ranking of states. On a list, which included data from the states and the District, D.C. came in 49th overall by WalletHub, Only Louisiana and New Mexico received a worse ranking.

D.C. specifically, had a lot to work on when it comes to its dropout rate; it’s the highest in the country—9.0 percent. The national average was 5.9 percent.

Gonzalez said the results, which did not take into account D.C.’s charter schools, showed one of every three students is considered at-risk dropping out of school, including 40 percent of low-income students.

States have lowered dropout rates by providing alternative high school options, such as online courses and extended day options, to avoid students dropping out of school altogether.

The District, on the other hand, did not show a significant improvement at these schools, all 10 Bold Improvement Schools received a score of 3 or lower.

\section{Access to Technology in D.C. Public Schools is Deeply Unequal }

Gonzalez said, “How are the schools of the future who are in a one-school category?”

\section{These 10 D.C. Schools are Making Big Gains with At-Risk Students }

\subsection{Why Aren’t They More Popular?}

When test scores are announced in the District of Columbia, some public schools are high-fliers every year. They get to the top, and they tend to be in the city’s most affluent neighborhoods, where students come to school with loads of advantages. No one is surprised when these schools that serve the District’s most vulnerable children perform highly.

On the other hand, schools that serve the District’s most vulnerable children perform poorly.

In fact, the District’s charter schools, of whom 14% receive special education services and 62% are considered at-risk. Nearly half of the city’s lowest-performing schools educate 3,400 students in high-poverty neighborhoods.

Here are the 2018 Bold Improvement Schools:

\begin{itemize}
  \item Anacostia Arts Center, 1231 Good Hope Road, SE, Washington, DC
  \item Deanwood Elementary, 720 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE, Washington, DC
  \item Dress For Less, and the Hechinger Market, 2020 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC
  \item Randle High School, 1312 10th St. SE, Washington, DC
  \item Ivy City Smokehouse, 1625 4th St. NE, Washington, DC
  \item Deanwood, which is often referred to as a food desert, as CO reported in April
  \item Gonzalez said she could visualize the repurpose of a cluster of shuttered D.C. public schools that sit atop a hill in the neighborhood, the revitalization of nearby Hechinger and Dress For Less, that houses retailers including Dollar Tree and Ross Dress For Less, and the redevelopment of the Langston Golf Course.
\end{itemize}
and significantly expanded medical services to residents of the area. Others Might Eat (SOME). This center in northeast D.C. near the Benning Road Metro station.

Upon completion in early 2019, the center, which sits amid a high-impact, mixed-use development, will also include low-cost housing for about 200 families whom make just over the minimum wage. The Commons at Stanton Square (2375 Elvans Rd. SE) offers resources for neighbors of all ages with an emphasis on programming for families with young children, and establishes a lactation consultant certification program at local universities. It also creates a program to send child development experts to the homes of immigrant families with young children, and specializes it costs to provide child-care services. The bill also mandates that the existing subsidy money go to increase salaries for child-care workers, many of whom make just over the minimum wage.

**CHILD CARE COSTS IN D.C. ARE SKY HIGH. HERE’S WHAT D.C. LAWMAKERS ARE TRYING TO DO ABOUT IT**

By Martin Autermuhle, WAMU IN NEWS, 8/8/18

...The bill, known as “Birth-to-Three For All D.C.,” will expand a current subsidy program so that more families become eligible for it, and also impose a cap on how much of a family’s income can go toward child-care costs.

The bill is divided into two parts: health and education. On the health side, the bill creates a program to provide specialist services during pediatric visits for families in wards 7 and 8. It also expands an existing initiative that puts children at risk of developmental delays and disabilities in touch with medical services. It also creates a program to send child development experts to the homes of immigrant families and at-risk children, and establishes a lactation consultant certification program at local universities.

...On the education side, the bill addresses both the cost of care and compensation of those who provide it. First, it requires that D.C. increase its subsidy rates for child care centers serving low-income kids with vouchers. The annual subsidy is currently $15,820, roughly $7,000 short of what the city estimates it costs to provide child-care services. The bill also mandates that the existing subsidy money go to increase salaries for child-care workers, many of whom make just over the minimum wage.

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSEUM WAIVES ENTRY PassES FOR SEPTEMBER WEEKDAYS**

Visitors to the National African American History and Culture in D.C. will not be required to have passes on weekdays in September.

The museum will be open to all on a first-come, first-served basis on weekdays in September, though passes will be required for the weekends of Sept. 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23 and 29-30. 

**CURRENT EXHIBITION FOR SEPTEMBER**

AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY MUSEUM


**SEPTEMBER TRIVIA**

Birthstone: Sapphire

Flower: Morning Glory, Aster,

Birthstone: Sapphire

Flower: Morning Glory, Aster,

**BLACK HISTORY FACTS FOR SEPTEMBER**

Click here for September Monthly facts.