

## Kushi Opening at City Vista



**K**ushi, a Japanese restaurant in the innovative form of izakaya (a Japanese style pub that serves food), has announced that it will open this fall on K Street in the CityVista complex. Husband and wife team, Darren Lee Norris and Ari Kushimoto Norris, has signed a lease for a 4,000 square foot space at 465 K Street, NW, which, in addition to the main dining room, will include several private dining areas.

Kushi will feature kushiyaki (mini kebab sticks with bite-sized pieces of food, such as zucchini and chicken, grilled over charcoal and bathed in yakitori sauce) and sushi, as well as other regional Japanese specialties using local and organic ingredients. The open kitchen will feature a large grill for brazing skewers of meat and vegetables. Plus, an open fire pit will be used for grilling larger pieces of fish and meat.

Sushi Chef Yoshihisa Ota is chef and owner of the highly-acclaimed Tokyo restaurant, Ginza Gakyu, and is a rising star on the Tokyo sushi scene. The Kushi/Ginza Gakyu partnership is the first and only edition of the Tokyo restaurant in the United States. Chef Ota aspires to bring a dazzling new approach to sushi to Washington DC.

Become a friend of Kushi on Facebook, learn the latest, and get ready for the opening!



## 425 Eye Street Renovation

**W**ork began in early May on a complete renovation of the former Chester Arthur Building now known as 425 Eye Street. The 380,000 square foot office building was constructed in 1973 and housed U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement until November 2008. The transformation of the building will update the space and attract new office and retail tenants to the Mount Vernon Triangle neighborhood.

The renovation will include all new interiors, the façade, a rooftop terrace, and updated mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems. The life-safety and security systems will be updated to state-of-the-art specifications required for today's security needs. Approximately 28,000 square feet of retail space will be created on the first floor – ideally with a white tablecloth restaurant in

the mix. The remainder of the seven-story building will be dedicated to office space. A two-story, below-grade parking garage will be available for tenants. 425 Eye Street aims to achieve LEED Gold Certification thereby adding another green building to the Triangle.

Construction is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2010, with tenants moving in shortly thereafter. The building's owner, Paramount Group, Inc., anticipates government agencies and private sector tenants will occupy the renewed Class-A building. Cassidy & Pinkard Colliers is leasing the office space, and a retail broker will soon be selected.

For more information about the renovation, contact Property Manager John Bone at [jbone@paramount-group.com](mailto:jbone@paramount-group.com).

## 455 Mass Wins Award from Washington Business Journal

*The Buddha Bar at 455 Mass was awarded the Urban Retail Transaction of the Year from the The Washington Business Journal. The building, developed by Penzance and ASB Real Estate Investments, leased a 9,500-square-foot, first-floor space to the international restaurant group based in Paris. Congratulations!*

## A Message from the Executive Director

Ever wonder where your MVTCID tax dollars go? First, your payment supports our four person Clean Team which sweeps the sidewalks every day from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. In addition to normal police patrols, we hire additional police officers on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights to improve overall public safety. Our marketing efforts include our website, this newsletter, the *Annual Report*, park clean-ups, tree plantings, and the upcoming police bike ride. This spring we held the inaugural Mount Vernon Triangle House Tour. And we run the whole show with a staff of two (me and Operations Manager Renee Childers). We also spend a lot of time fundraising, staffing our volunteer committees and conducting the Annual Meeting. We strive to give you a lot of bang for your buck!

As MVTCID turns five years old this year, we want to say a heartfelt *thank you* to the founders, the board of directors, volunteers, and the MVTCID taxpayers for investing in the revitalization of our community. With new development, great retail, improved public space and parks, Mount Vernon Triangle's future sure looks bright!



Bill McLeod, Executive Director

## Job Fair at Mount Carmel Baptist Church

Providence Hospital and Perry School are co-sponsoring a Job and Health Screening Expo on July 15, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Expo will feature a number of community partners and focus on connecting people with job training and employment opportunities. National Student Partnerships will be present to provide employment counseling and the Department of Employment Services' van will offer information on job vacancies in the District.

The event will be held at Mount Carmel Baptist Church, 901 Third Street, N.W., and lunch will be provided to all participants. To RSVP for this event, or for more information, contact Robert Mann of Perry School at (202) 216-0453 or [rmann@perryschool.org](mailto:rmann@perryschool.org). Participants are also encouraged to set up an appointment with Perry School for more in-depth resume services and job interview preparation.



## Police Bike Ride

Join your neighbors and MPD officers for a bike ride through the Triangle on August 20 starting at 6:00 p.m. sharp. The bike ride will begin at 555 Mass, wind its way through the neighborhood, and end at Golden Rule Plaza. This is a fun opportunity to meet the officers, talk to merchants, and bike with your neighbors.

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*The Mount Vernon Triangle Community Improvement District provides clean, safe, economic development, and marketing services to the Mount Vernon Triangle community.*

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# Public Service Award



*Yvonne Williams (left) is presented the Public Service Award by Charles (Sandy) Wilkes at the MVTCID Annual Meeting*

The Public Service Award, presented at the MVTCID Annual Meeting on June 18, was awarded to Yvonne L. Williams, Chair of the Board of Trustees of Bible Way Church and a founding board member of the Mount Vernon Triangle Community Improvement District. A native Washingtonian, Ms. Williams has witnessed many changes in our community over the years.

Bible Way Church, founded by her father, Bishop Smallwood E. Williams, in Shaw in 1927, has been located at 1100 New Jersey Avenue since 1936. In addition to its spiritual outreach, Bible Way has built over 350 units of affordable housing, including 119 units of senior housing – Golden Rule Plaza at 1050 New Jersey Avenue. Keeping the legacy of her father alive and her church strong, our award winner is spearheading Bible Way’s plan to build an additional 200 units of affordable housing in the coming years.

In his presentation of the award, MVTCID Board Secretary, Charles (Sandy) Wilkes, described Ms. Williams as “a towering presence in our community and a tireless force for good.”

Please congratulate Yvonne Williams on her 2009 Public Service Award!

## School is Out: Summer Activities for Children

*By Reverend Joseph Evans, Ph.D., Senior Pastor, Mount Carmel Baptist Church*

Nearly everyone can remember that final bell signifying school being out for the summer! In my neck of the woods, children would say, “It’s time for a lil’ fun.” This remains a happy time for most kids. For parents, however, their children’s summer break may mean economic and logistical stressors, especially childcare.

Intellectual activity – particularly reading over the summer–helps children retain what they learned during the prior school year; it is reported that children who do not read over the summer may lose nearly a grade level of learning. This hinders their intellectual progress; with the result that many teachers must spend time each fall reviewing the prior year’s syllabus.

Here is a list of free or low-cost programs that will help keep your child busy and will further his or her education during the summer months:

- 1. After Summer School Programs:** DC Learns, Academy of Hope, National Geographic Society, National Education Association, Jack and Jill America, Inc., DC Scores, Bright Horizon East End, and District of Columbia TANF all have after school programs.
- 2. Churches:** National City Presbyterian, Chevy Chase Presbyterian, St. Patrick’s Episcopal Day School, Mount Airy Baptist Church Pastoral Care & Counseling Center, and many other churches have programs that assist parents with activities for their children.
- 3. Vacation Bible Schools:** Nearly every church in the city has vacation Bible school. There is often no fee to enroll your children. You can visit our church’s website [www.themcbc.org](http://www.themcbc.org) for our dates.
- 4. Day Trips:** Outings to our national museums, parks, monuments, and the zoo are rewarding for children of all ages. Plus, they’re free!

It takes planning on the part of parents to keep children engaged during the summer months. But, you can be successful at keeping children’s minds growing and searching for knowledge as they have a “lil’ fun.”

## Fringe Festival Starts July 9

Now in its fourth year, The Capital Fringe Festival is Washington’s annual celebration of cutting-edge performing arts. The Fringe Festival headquarters – “Fort Fringe” – is located just north of Mount Vernon Triangle in the old AV Italian restaurant – 607 New York Avenue, NW. The Fringe Festival runs 18 days starting July 9 through July 26. Over 120 acting companies and thousands of artists will come together from throughout North America to produce over 800 performances in 20 venues around town. This is an opportunity to discover the avant-garde in the performing arts right at your doorstep. Nothing is censored or juried, so an open mind is a good thing to bring along.

Tickets for each performance are \$15. A one-time purchase of a \$5 Fringe Button is required for admittance to all venues. If you are interested in attending multiple performances, you may purchase a Fringe Pass from \$40 to \$300 (one button included). To buy tickets or learn more, visit [www.capitalfringe.org](http://www.capitalfringe.org) or visit Fort Fringe Wednesday through Thursday from 12:00 noon to 11:00 p.m. and Friday through Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.



*Julianne Brienza, Executive Director of Capital Fringe, is surrounded by her staff, building sets and performance space*



# Calendar of Events

July 8	10:00 a.m.	Property Managers Meeting Golden Rule Plaza; 1050 NJ Ave, NW
July 15	10:00-2:00	Job Fair at Mount Carmel Baptist Church 901 3rd Street, NW
August 18	6:00 p.m.	Marketing Committee Meeting The L; 440 L Street, NW
August 20	6:00 p.m.	Bike Ride With MPD; starting at 555 Mass
September 9	10:00 a.m.	Retail Task Force Meeting Quadrangle Development
September 16	10:00 a.m.	Property Managers Meeting Golden Rule Plaza; 1050 NJ Ave, NW
September 17	5:00 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting Downtown DC BID Boardroom
September 19	12:00	Walking Town DC; Tour starts at The Carnegie Library



## Broom King Award

The Broom King (or Queen) Award is given every quarter to the member of the Clean Team who has achieved significant improvement on his or her cleaning route, has gone the extra mile when it comes to dealing with merchants and residents, generously assists his or her fellow Clean Team members, and completes his or her tasks on a timely and consistent basis. Danny Proctor, who started with the Clean Team in early spring, has performed his duties admirably. Mr. Proctor has also completed two scholarship trainings offered by The Casey Trees Foundation. For all of these reasons, Mr. Proctor was awarded this quarter's Broom King Award. Congratulations, Mr. Proctor!

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