

# THE CAPITAL NEWS

Certified Business Enterprise

The Untold Stories

## The May Firm Sues SEED Public Charter School for Youth's Suicide

## Hope Village Wins Protest Against Federal Bureau of Prisons



By James Wright  
Special to the Capital News

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Special to the Capital News

The death of Stormiyah Denson-Jackson has touched former D.C. Council member and Ward 8 attorney LaRuby May in a special way and she is using her legal skills to get justice for the family of her young friend.

Hope Village, a well-known company that operates a halfway house for men in the District of Columbia, is protesting a decision by the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), awarding of a contract to a competitor.

Denson-Jackson committed suicide on Jan. 23, 2018 while in her dormitory at the SEED Charter Boarding School in Washington, D.C. The 12-year-old was in the loco parentis (parental) custody of both the SEED

Hope Village filed an official protest on Feb. 21, 2019 on the awarding of a halfway house contract to CORE DC. Both contractors are competing for work dealing with a residential re-entry center and home

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# THE CAPITAL NEWS

THE UNTOLD STORIES

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## UPCOMING NEWS:

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If you would like to place a small job advertisement, housing advertisement or automobile advertisement in the paper please email the editor with the information and the paper will contact you about pricing for your ad.

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Charter School and the SEED Foundation and May, with the help of co-counsel Will Lightfoot of the law firm Koonz, McKenney, Johnson, DePaolis & Lightfoot will seek \$5 million in compensatory damages for her death.

“This is gross negligence on the part of the SEED charter school and The SEED Foundation,” May said in an interview with the Capital News on Jan. 29, 2019. “The school wasn’t in compliance with the law of the District of Columbia.”

District law states that school personnel are to be trained and in some cases, certified by the D.C. Department of Health, to deal with young people, particularly those who may have mental health issues.

In their lawsuit that will be litigated in the D.C. Superior Court of the District of Columbia’s Civil Division in the name of Stormiyah’s mother, Patricia Denson, as the personal representative of her deceased daughter’s estate, May and Lightfoot say that school officials weren’t certified to deal with suicide or other mentally-troubled students, as is required by law. Also, the attorneys say that Denson wasn’t notified about her daughter’s volatile mental state even when Stormiyah was seen by the school’s counselor, whom the documents list as “Ms. Hopkins.”

May and Lightfoot make it clear that Denson should have been consulted about a Dec. 12, 2017 counseling session when Stormiyah told Hopkins “she didn’t want to live anymore” and “she couldn’t take it anymore.” It has been revealed that despite Stormiyah’s cries for help, Hopkins assessed her as a lower level suicide threat and informed SEED principal Zenda Mahon and other SEED administrators of her conclusions.

May and Lightfoot said in the lawsuit if Denson knew of her child’s suicidal tendencies, she would have taken her to a psychiatric hospital for care and withdrawn from SEED. May said the SEED charter school and The SEED Foundation need to pay for what they have done.

“I knew Stormiyah and her mom,” May said. “This school needs to be held accountable for

what happen to her and justice needs to be had.”

May said Stormiyah was excited at first about attending SEED. The school is unique in that it has a dormitory for students who live at the school from Sunday night through Friday, and it is a requirement that students stay there.

“Being at SEED was super important for Stormiyah because she thought being educated there would lead to a bright future,” May said. “She talked about going to college and doing great things.” Lightfoot said what makes the case so sad is that school officials openly violated the law.

“They knew about the required training but they ignored the law,” he said. “There is another case about a student who attempted suicide that we are aware of and again, they didn’t follow the law.” Lightfoot is speaking about the Chante C. Lee case in Superior Court where she alleges her son tried to kill himself because of bullying and constant harassment by students and, like the Stormiyah case, the situation wasn’t properly handled by SEED officials. The Chante C. Lee case was filed on Aug. 22, 2018.

May holds a juris doctorate from the David A. Clarke University of the District of Columbia School of Law and is a member of the D.C. and Florida bars. Lightfoot is a graduate of the George Washington University School of Law and a member of the D.C. bar.

May represented Ward 8 on the D.C. Council from May 2015 to January 2017.

May expressed pride that Denson came to her for representation.

“Ms. Pat was able to go to a lawyer in her community, someone she knew and trust, she didn’t have to go to K Street for quality representation,” May said. “She has it with me and in Ward 8. My firm offers stellar legal services for anyone that needs help and I am available.” ■

continued from P1



confinement services.

In the District, many inmates aren't housed at the D.C. Jail but at residential-like facilities in the city's neighborhoods. Many residents don't like having halfway houses in their midst because of the fear of increased criminal activity and negative economic values of properties that are close to them.

Plus, the District government doesn't offer nearby residents any financial incentives to have halfway houses close by. Supporters of halfway houses argue that it brings inmates into the community and hopes to mainstream them while saving taxpayers the expense of housing them at D.C. Jail.

Residents of Hope Village are offered courses and programs that will help in their rehabilitation such as employment assistance/readiness, GED preparation, substance abuse and mental health counseling and case management.

The D.C. Superior Court and the U.S. District Court for D.C. makes the placements of these inmates.

The decision to award CORE DC the residential re-entry contract by the BOP was made on Oct. 19, 2018 and Hope Village received notification of the award on Nov. 1, 2018. While the BOP has stated in documents that CORE DC had a better proposal, it seems that Hope Village's decision not to accept predatory sex offenders or child molesters seemed to doom its chances of landing the contract.

"As a result, Hope Village's final revised proposal was assigned an unsatisfactory rating for the site validity and suitability element because Hope Village did not provide or cite to any ordinances that might preclude it from accepting specific types of referrals and limited the acceptance of certain high risk offenders based on their classification," the protesting document said.

Hope Village argues that its policy of not accepting predatory sex offenders or child molesters should not have prejudiced it during the consideration process, saying "the protestor argues that the solicitation did not require offerors to accept all offenders."

CORE DC, whose corporate presence is in Florida, has had issues in the District. D.C. Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie (D-Ward 5), late last year, protested a halfway house in the area of 3400 New York Ave., N.E., saying that residents of the neighborhood didn't get the chance to weigh-in on the process.

Thomas Armstrong is the general counsel for the General Accounting Office of the Comptroller General of the United States.

He stated that the protest should be sustained in part and denied in part. Basically, Armstrong said that the agency should re-open the competition for the contract, conduct discussions and collect other information and "prepare a new source selection decision." He also recommended the agency reimburse Hope Village its costs associated with the filing and other reasonable attorney's fees. ■



# Mike Austin: New Role, New Goal

*“I plan to flex that muscle on every agreement to get more for our people”*



By Phinis Jones

Washington, D.C. – The Congress Heights ANC has named Commissioner Mike Austin as the new Chairman of ANC 8C. Mike Austin was unanimously elected at the ANC 8C February meeting held at the R.I.S.E. Demonstration Center.

As the new Chair, Austin pledged to expand outreach efforts to engage more Congress Heights residents. “I would love to see more community input. I know it’s hard for people to attend every meeting with the day-to-day hustle and bustle, but I plan to engage more neighbors so they can weigh in however is most convenient for them.”

When asked about his specific plans for the ANC, Austin said, “I’m going to start by creating community-involved committees, diversifying our communication tools, and doing more outreach. Each of these initiatives are geared towards increasing our community engagement because it’s currently too low.”

At the recent 8C meeting, Austin began by thanking Ms. Mary Cuthbert for her decades of service to this community. He said, “Ms. Mary is a pillar in Ward 8. She has done so much for me and a

lot of others in this community. I look forward to continuing to learn from her in this new role.”

When asked if he can handle the workload, Austin said, “Absolutely. Being Chair has been busy already but so is being a commissioner because people have problems and we’re elected to solve them. I enjoy talking with my neighbors and plan to talk to them more as Chair. I spend my time delivering community newsletters to my neighbors, keeping my residents informed through our new website [www.MikeAustin8.com](http://www.MikeAustin8.com), and responding to constituent concerns. I have those things handled so, yes, I’m ready for the additional responsibilities.”

Austin is a lawyer and is passionate about solving issues in his community. Foremost, Austin said that he plans to use the power of his new role to negotiate stronger community benefit agreements that get the most for residents. “The community has the real leverage with these multimillion-dollar development deals and I plan to flex that muscle on every agreement to get more for our people.”

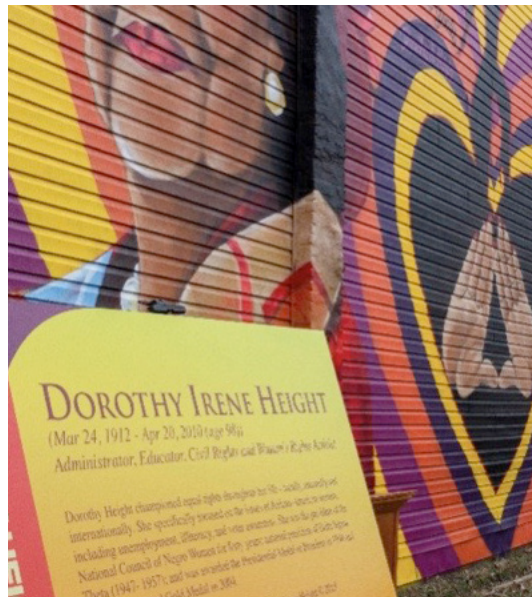
Austin said also he plans to use the power of his new role to make sure developers and property owners are keeping their word on building and providing safe housing. “We have a lot of slumlords in this area and unfortunately residents just get used to living in subpar conditions. I get calls all the time about some serious housing code violations. We’re going to hold their feet to the fire” said Austin.

Austin ended with, “I want to thank my colleagues on 8C and my community for their trust. I’m excited about what we can accomplish – together.” ■

# THE EMERGENCE

WHERE INFORMATION & COMMUNITY COME TOGETHER

## *Murals Matter: The Unveiling of Dorothy I. Height in Congress Heights*



On Saturday, January 12, 2019, Destination Congress Heights Main Street Program, in collaboration with The Congress Heights Community Partnership, and The Congress Heights Community Training & Development Corporation (CHCTDC) unveiled a gorgeous mural on the side of 3211, a residence in the “Soul of the City”, also known as, DC’s Ward 8 Congress Heights community.

The vibrant mural depicts Dorothy I. Height, an iconic African American administrator and educator who worked as a civil rights and women’s rights activist, specifically focused on the issues of African-American women, including unemployment, illiteracy, and voter awareness.

“I am really happy to have our 1st mural project that happens to celebrate one of Delta Sigma Theta’s Sorority Incorporated ‘Super Women’ and I am excited about the next one.” explains Monica Ray, CHCTDC’s Executive Director.

“By promoting local artist talents and engaging the neighborhood students from Democracy Prep Public Charter School (Old Congress Heights School) to help contribute to the masterpiece, the mural completion will forever be a milestone with a lasting effect on the neighborhood.”, says Ebony Kirby, CHCTDC’s Small Business Counselor.

Research continues to prove the positively social, cultural, and healthy benefits of mural accessibility; therefore, impacted neighbors and visitors are constantly reminded why murals matter.

“The goal of the initiative is using murals to create a tangible sense of place and destination, resulting in increased foot traffic along the Congress Heights business corridor while adding color, vibrancy, and character to the community,” said Wendell Quann, Project Director for Destination Congress Heights. “Our mission is to cultivate a healthy business corridor and neighborhood through public art, beautification, education and celebration of our history and culture. Through the visual aesthetic, our first Dorothy I. Height mural and future corridor murals will promote a sense of identity, belonging, welcoming, and openness which strengthens our community identification.” Quann, concluded. ■



# Councilmember Todd Introduces Legislation To Improve Affordability & Livability For Veterans In District Of Columbia

*Retirement Income Tax Exemption & Short-Term Parking Permits For Disabled Servicemembers Honor The Sacrifice Of DC Veterans*



**Residents of Knollwood Military Retirement Community in Ward 4 attended today's legislative meeting to voice their support for the Veteran Retirement Income Tax Exclusion Amendment Act of 2019**

**By Phinis Jones**

Washington, DC – Today, Councilmember Brandon Todd (D-Ward 4) introduced two bills that aim to improve affordability and livability for District veterans while honoring their serve and sacrifice.

The Veteran Retirement Income Tax Exclusion Amendment Act of 2019 would exempt retirement income for members of the Uniformed Services from DC personal income tax. 22 states currently classify military retirement income as tax exempt. Over a dozen residents of Ward 4's Knollwood Military Retirement Community attended the legislative meeting in support of the bill. The legislation was co-introduced by Councilmembers Grosso, R. White and Cheh, and co-sponsored by Councilmembers Evans, Allen, and Bonds.

“This legislation not only further honors the sacrifices of retired members of the uniformed services, but also makes the District a more attractive destination for retired servicemembers,” said Councilmember Todd. “This bill can also serve as an economic engine by attracting active duty

military seeking to retire and work in civilian business, and by attracting civilian businesses seeking highly-trained employees.”

“Knollwood is home to more than 300 retired officers and spouses who have served our nation for a lifetime, many in times of war,” said Col. Paul Bricker (Ret.), COO of Knollwood Military Retirement Community in Ward 4. “We are proud to support the DC Council as they take this monumental step to make retired military pay exempt from DC income tax and assist in making Washington a retirement destination of choice. This gesture is another small way we can express our thanks for their sacrifices.”

Councilmember Todd also introduced the District Wounded Warrior Parking Permit Act of 2019, which would create a parking permit for disabled veterans and Purple Heart recipients that provides free short-term parking at all District-owned and operated lots, garages, meters, and pay stations. Eligible recipients would apply for a unique placard issued by the District Department of Transportation, with renewal required after three years. States such as Oregon, Texas, Florida, Louisiana, and New Jersey have passed similar legislation. The bill was co-introduced by Councilmembers Nadeau, Silverman, Grosso, Bonds and R. White, and co-sponsored by Councilmembers Cheh, Allen, Gray, T. White.

“This bill is designed to remove roadblocks and help veterans access their personal and medical appointments with more ease and comfort,” said Councilmember Todd. “As parking becomes increasingly challenging and costly in the District, we must take steps to ensure that those who sustained injuries in service to our nation are accommodated and supported.” ■

## Congress Heights Community Training & Development Corporation (CHCTDC) Launches CBE Entrepreneurs Boot Camp



WASHINGTON, February, 2019 – Congress Heights Community Training & Development Corporation (CHCTDC) started an initiative dedicated to increasing the number of viable Ward 7 and Ward 8 Certified Business Enterprise (CBE) by launching this month an Entrepreneurs CBE Boot Camp.

The Boot Camp is designed as an opportunity to develop and support participants' business' development and growth. This multi-week, FREE course teaches participants and their team how to manage their firm/business; to secure CBE certification from DC Government; and to sell or win work opportunities in the highly competitive CBE market place. This immersive program is designed to impart practical advice and develop actionable skills for emerging and socially and economically disadvantaged Ward 7 and 8 entrepreneurs.

Each boot camp session does a deep dive into a subject area that founders of most early-stage companies and business owners need to navigate in order to succeed, grow and make money.

"This initiative is long overdue and necessary for our small business technical assistance clients,"- said Wendell Quann, CHCTDC's Director of Small Business Programs. "Ensuring that Wards 7 and 8's socially and economically disadvantaged small business owners are included in DC's procurement and contracting opportunities is a priority for us." "We have found that African-American business owners East of the River appear to be disproportionately excluded or waived out of DC's procurement contracting opportunities," Quann concluded.

FREE small business technical assistance and program designed to provide local, small and disadvantaged business enterprises (LSDBEs) with equal access to economic and procurement opportunities by educating and training them. The aim is to increase the number of CBE's and ensure these businesses are prepared and prosper.

"CBE certification to expand contracting opportunities for small and local businesses by giving preference to certified business enterprises (CBEs)" said Monica Ray, Executive Director of CHCTDC. "DC government has many oppor-

tunities for public contracts and with this Boot Camp, we can better ensure that our Ward 7 and 8 small and local businesses are first in line for those government contracts".

As the District embarks on several large infrastructure and construction projects, it is critically important to keep as many dollars as possible within the District and maximize CBE and SBE participation to provide them with additional economic benefits in Wards 7 and 8.

Through its CBE Boot Camp, CHCTDC is training over 75 entrepreneurs to create viable CBE certified businesses. The Boot Camp sessions are held on Wednesdays from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm at the Malcolm X Opportunity Center, 2nd Floor, 1351 Alabama Avenue SE, Washington DC 20032. The Boot Camp is a 6 Sessions camp held on February 13, 20 and 27th and March 6, 13 and 20th 2019. The culminating event of the Boot Camp is a Pitch Competition that will be held on Saturday April 13, 2019. ■

### For further information, contact:

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**3215 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE**

**Washington, DC 20032**

**Office: (202) 563-5200**

**Email: [ebony@chctdc.org](mailto:ebony@chctdc.org)**



## Healthy Foods Retail Program: Grown in DC Notice of \$125,000 Funding Availability



The Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) has announced that DSLBD is soliciting applications for Grown in DC, an initiative of the Healthy Foods Retail Program established by the District of Columbia. DSLBD intends to award up to five (5) grants from the \$120,000 in total available funding to eligible DC-based for profit or non-profit organizations. The deadline to apply online is March 15, 2019 at 2 pm and applications will only be accepted through the DLSBD online application system. Applicants may prepare budget amounts of \$20,000 - \$60,000 for consideration.

The Food, Environmental, and Economic Development in the District of Columbia Act of 2010 (FEED Act) established the Healthy Food Retail Program with DSLBD to expand access to healthy foods in eligible areas. The purpose of this grant is to sustainably expand local access to healthy foods either through or with farmers markets or through or with small food retailers (including corner stores).

For additional guidance please see the Request for Applications (RFA) on the DSLBD website that will be released on or before January 31, 2019: ■

<https://dslbd.dc.gov/service/current-solicitations-opportunities>

## DC Central Kitchen Is Opening a New Café On The Grounds of THEARC in Ward 8



Join DC Central Kitchen for a **14-week training program** to prepare for a **full-time career** in the culinary industry.

**MASTER CULINARY SKILLS**  
**PREPARE FOR THE WORKFORCE**  
**IMPROVE YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE**

**Spring Class Starts April 15, 2019**

**Application Deadline: April 5, 2019**

**STEP 1** Attend one info session & pick up an application  
**STEP 2** Turn in Complete Application Packet

**INTERESTED** **When:** Every Tuesday@ 10:00 AM  
**Where:** DC Central Kitchen  
425 2nd St. NW, Washington, DC 20001

**ENROLLING?** 1. Application  
2. Referral form  
3. Recent TB PPD Test (w/in 1yr) ...

This café and adjoining commercial kitchen will allow DC Central Kitchen to offer focused, integrated job training and placement services to Opportunity Youth in the District of Columbia.

Participating youth will earn industry-recognized credentials, learn both back-of-house and front-of-house skills, and receive individualized support from DC Central Kitchen staff members who are invested in their long-term success.

DC Central Kitchen's Culinary Job Training program would like to collaborate with your agency to find new students interested in our 14-week training program. ■

**Weekly Information Sessions at DCKK**  
**(425 2nd St NW) every Tuesday at 10 a.m.**





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# Winter Ready In Ward 8, DC



This January was cold with some snow fall and the Clean Teams were ready and waiting each day we had snow. The Alabama Ave, Bellevue and Congress Heights' commercial corridor clean teams which are funded by the Dept. Of Small & Local Business Development and managed by Congress Heights Community Training & Development Corporation ("CHCTDC") were ready and engaged to clear pathways to businesses for our business owners and the consumers of those businesses.

The teams which were led by Career Path DC did not back down from the snow. The guys, who are all DC residents came out ready upon the first bit of snow. The Clean Teams had their hands full, more so had their hands cold but it did not stop them. From 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. these young men executed a snow removal plan like none other; they did things such as

- Shovel snow from the sidewalks, entrances of businesses, curb areas.
- They were spreading salt everywhere to help melt what snow was left in their way
- Clearing snow from curbs and gutters so the drains do not end up clogged.
- They also picked up trash that are laying around; in addition to collecting the trash bags that were in the street trash cans.

Fire is not the only element which has an Emergency Response unit but so does snow. Thanks to DSLBD, CHCTDC and Career Path DC three commercial corridors (Alabama Ave, Bellevue, Congress Heights) have clean teams who also does snow removal which is greatly appreciated by the business owners and their customers. ■

## The Washington Mystics' Inaugural Game in Their New Home, The Entertainment and Sports Arena in Congress Heights, on June 1



The Washington Mystics will tip-off their inaugural game in their new home, the Entertainment and Sports Arena in Congress Heights, on June 1 with a rematch of the 2018 WNBA Semifinals against the Atlanta Dream at 7:00 p.m. Led by Head Coach Mike Thibault, the Mystics are coming off the most successful season in franchise history with a 22-12 regular season record and their first trip to the WNBA Finals.

"With the release of our schedule, we can see that we are already reaping huge dividends from the move to our new home at the Entertainment and Sports Arena," said Thibault. "It is a well-balanced schedule with a lot of weekend dates, a direct result of us having much greater control over dates that benefit our team and fans. Our players are excited about the home court advantage that the atmosphere and size of our new arena will provide. Every seat is a great seat and the availability of easy metro access will make the total Mystics game experience one that fans will thoroughly enjoy as we pursue the WNBA Championship." ■



*From Our Travels*  
 AN ART EXHIBITION FEATURING  
 BLACK ART FROM AROUND THE WORLD

**ART SALE**

Featured Countries:  
 RWANDA  
 LONDON  
 SENEGAL



**ART SALE**

OPENING RECEPTION  
**MARCH 1**  
 7PM-9PM  
 MONTH LONG EXHIBIT



**WWW.CHACC.ORG/EXHIBITS**

**CONGRESS HEIGHTS**  
 ARTS & CULTURE CENTER  
 3200 MLK AVENUE SE  
 WASH DC 20032

Join Congress Heights Arts and Culture Center this Friday, March 1st from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Congress Heights Arts and Culture Center (CHACC), located at 3200 Martin Luther King Avenue SE, as they open 'From our Travels,' an art exhibition featuring black art from around the world.

Original art pieces created by black artists from several countries to include Rwanda, London, Senegal and more. This is not just an art exhibition but an art sale offering original work for incredible prices.

Congress Heights Arts and Culture Center has a mission to expose, inspire and educate our Congress Heights community to rich arts + cultural opportunities and this is an opportunity you don't want to miss.

For more information and free RSVP, please visit CHACC's website at [chacc.org/exhibits](http://chacc.org/exhibits).



## Lyft Is Offering Low-Cost Rides to Grocery Stores in Ward 8



A six-month pilot program, from Lyft and Martha's Table kicked off in January to help residents living in D.C.'s biggest food deserts access groceries. The program allows select Ward 8 (and Ward 7) families to pay a \$2.50 flat fee for shared rides to and from the three full-service grocery stores east of the river, plus the lobby market at Martha's Table located at 2375 Elvans Road SE. There are two Safeways' (322 40th St. NE and 2845 Alabama Ave. SE) and one Giant (1535 Alabama Ave. SE).

Lyft and Martha's Table will identify 500 families to participate in the initial "Lyft Grocery Access" program. Each family must have a child enrolled at one of seven elementary schools in order to qualify: Anne Beers Elementary School, Garfield Elementary School, Moten Elementary School, Rocketship Rise Academy, Savoy Elementary School, Stanton Elementary School, and Turner Elementary School. Families with children participating in educational programs through Martha's Table are also eligible.

Those interested in joining the program can apply here. Registration is on a first come, first served basis. Registration will remain open until 500 families are enrolled.

# CORPORATE OVERVIEW



The May Firm, a Washington DC Woman-Owned Business Enterprise, provides legal compliance to commercial, non-profit/not-for-profit, small businesses, government agencies and municipalities. The May Firm, PLLC focuses on emerging corridors with a concentration on real estate development, zoning and regulatory affairs.

## CORE PRACTICE AREAS



### REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

The May Firm understands the difficulties in real estate development in emerging corridors. As cities across the country are searching for strategies to build all communities, The May Firm provides the necessary services to support successful residential and commercial development.



### REGULATORY AND COMPLIANCE

Successful businesses artfully navigate their landscape while delivering results and building relationships. Regulatory compliance, risk management, and the ability investigate issues are key contributors to that success as they can protect your brand, reputation, and bottom line as well as prevent business disruptions while preservin relationships with stakeholders.



### GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The May Firm provides full-service advocacy and navigation at all levels of government with a specialization in needs of small towns and cities. The May Firm team is known for building and maintaining professional relationships through hard work and commitment. Our team understands the role of public policy and the legislative process.



### BUSINESS LAW

The May Firm focuses on individuals and small business structuring and ongoing operations. Our team works to help all businesses grow. Understanding the vital role of small businesses to economy, specifically in the growth of emerging corridors, we provide the necessary support that can only be offered by a small firm with extensive experience working with small businesses.

## NIGP CODES

909-33- 00

Contractor Compliance  
Monitoring Services

952-61- 00

Law Enforcement -  
Community Relations Services

956-60- 25

Governmental Resource

961-49- 00

Legal Services, Attorneys

961-49- 50

Legal Services, Attorneys

961-50- 00

Legal Services Including  
Depositions and Expert  
Witness Testimony

961-50- 40

Legal Services Including  
Research time, Travel time,  
Testifying time, Meals, etc.

961-94- 00

Zoning, Land Use Studies

963-43- 00

Intergovernmental and  
Inter-Agency Contracts

990-80- 00

Surveillance Services

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CONTACT: LaRuby May

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3rd Floor; Washington, DC 20032



## Overview of the South Capitol Improvements Project

The former South Capitol Street Shopping Center is being redeveloped by City Interests, LLC and The Michaels Organization. This mixed-use project is comprised of a 195-unit affordable multifamily building and 5,500 sq. ft. of community/office space that includes a neighborhood grocer space, community room, and office space for ANC 8D. The multifamily building also has several resident amenities, which include a business center, lounge areas, fitness center, and private courtyards.

The Congress Heights Community Training and Development Corporation CHCTDC is currently leading the workforce development initiative that includes facilitating local small, minority and women disadvantage businesses participation and local hiring on the project as agreed upon in the Community Benefits Agreement CBA.

The South Capitol Improvements project is subject to DC First Source Agreement, Small Business Enterprise (SBEs), Certified Business Enterprise (CBE), and Section 3 requirements which are being monitored by the neighborhood CDC.

If you are a D.C. Certified subcontractor (see below) or D.C. resident and you would like to work on the South Capitol Improvements project please contact us ASAP.

## Current Subcontracting Opportunities

- Fencing
- Landscaping
- Kitchen Cabinets
- Overhead Doors
- Ceramic Tile
- Carpet and Flooring
- Painting
- Trash Chutes
- Fire Extinguishers and Cabinets
- Wire Shelving
- Signage
- Wire Mesh Partitions
- Toilet Partitions

**Please contact our office at 202-563-5200**

## Angela Davis to receive civil rights award after museum reverses decision

**The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute issued a public apology for denying the award and said there should have been more conversation**



The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute issued a public apology for denying the award and said there should have been more conversation

Asking the public to help “rebuild trust” in the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, the chairman of the Alabama museum’s board said on Friday it had reversed course after a public outcry and would give the activist Angela Davis an award that was offered then rescinded.

Davis was formerly an active member of the Black Panther party, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and the US communist party. The institute announced in October that she would receive the Fred Shuttlesworth Human Rights award.

But Davis is also an outspoken supporter of a movement criticizing Israel’s treatment of Palestinians. Earlier this month, after a local Holocaust education group asked it to reconsider, the BCRI board withdrew the award.

In a statement issued amid widespread outcry, Davis said she had “devoted much of [her] own activism to international solidarity and, specifically, to linking struggles in other parts of the world to US grass roots campaigns against police violence, the prison industrial complex, and racism more broadly.

“The rescinding of this invitation and the cancellation of the event where I was scheduled to speak was thus not primarily an attack against me but rather against the very spirit of the indivisibility of justice.”

The board issued a public apology and said there should have been more conversation before mak-

ing the decision to revoke the award.

In a statement issued on Friday, the BCRI said: “Immediately after that public apology, in keeping with its commitment to learning from its mistakes and in order to stay true to the BCRI’s founding mission, the Board voted to reaffirm Dr Davis as the recipient.

“Dr Davis was immediately thereafter personally invited to reaccept the award. The BCRI respects her privacy and timing in whatever her response may ultimately be.”

The BCRI president and chief executive, Andrea Taylor, praised Davis as “a daughter of Birmingham ... highly regarded throughout the world as a human rights activist”.

“Her credentials in championing human rights are noteworthy,” she said.

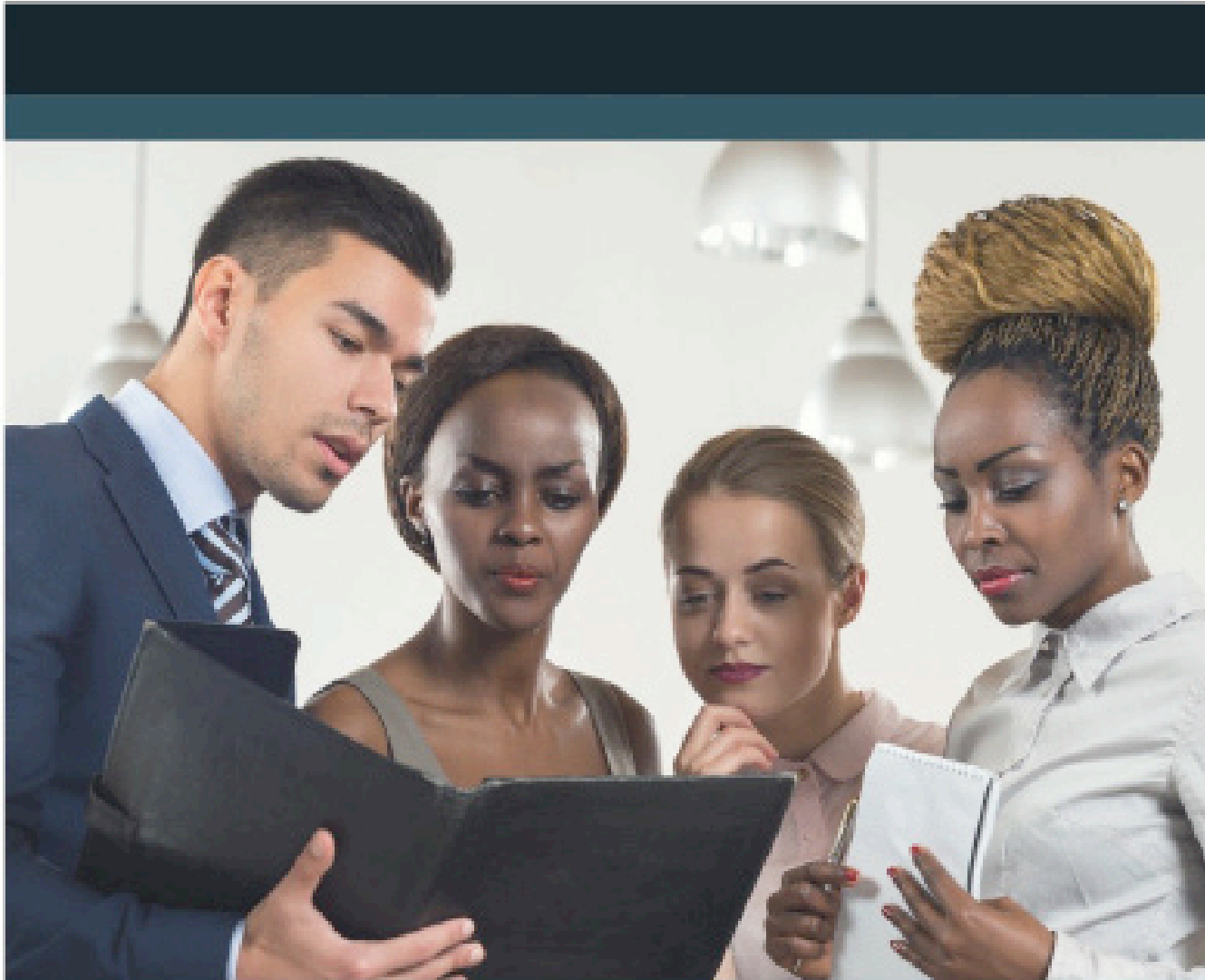
Rev Thomas L Wilder, interim chair of the BCRI board, said: “At the end of the day, we stand for open and honest dialogue on issues. It is only through our ability to talk openly and honestly with one another that we can achieve true understanding and appreciation for one another’s perspectives.”

After outlining the museum’s “Vision 2020” strategic plan, he added: “We ask everyone to partner with us to rebuild trust in the institute and its important work.”

Davis did not immediately comment. ■







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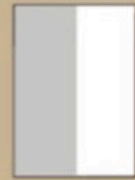







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Wednesday Night Prayer 6:30pm  
Wednesday Bible Study 7:30pm  
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[www.covenantbaptistucc.org](http://www.covenantbaptistucc.org)

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Reverend John A. Dillard III  
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Sunday School 9:00am  
<http://www.stjohncmecdc.org/>

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Prayer Service Tuesday 8:00pm  
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Prayer Meeting Tuesday 7:00pm  
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Sunday School 9:15am  
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(202) 582-4811- Office  
(202) 58202400- Fax  
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Sunday School 9:30am  
Devotional Service 10:45 am  
Bible Study Wednesday 6:30pm  
Children’s Church 2nd & 4th Sunday 11:00am  
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Dr. C. Matthew Hudson Jr., Pastor

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Bible Study Saturday 11:00am  
Holy Communion 1st Sunday 10:45am

Johnson Memorial Baptist Church  
Rev. Henry A. Gaston, Pastor  
800 Ridge Rd. SE WDC 20019  
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Email: [churchoffice@bdmdc.org](mailto:churchoffice@bdmdc.org)

New Life Ministries – DC  
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Community College Preparatory Academy  
2405 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue South East  
Washington, District of Columbia 20020

Mission House:  
3309 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue South East  
Washington, District of Columbia 20032  
Phone: 202-758-0403  
Email: [joinus@nlmdc.org](mailto:joinus@nlmdc.org)

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Place of Worship:  
Greater Fellowship/Gospel Baptist Church  
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Murry's & Paul's  
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Neighborhood Market  
1611 Rhode Island Ave. NE

Department of Human Services  
920-A Rhode Island Ave. NE

5th St. Laundromat  
415A Rhode Island Ave. NE

Woodbridge Public Library  
1800 Rhode Island NE

M&S Barber Services  
2900 12th NE

Jet Set Hair  
3530 12th St. NE

Newton Food Mart  
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Israel Baptist Church  
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2317 Rhode Island Ave. NE

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New 7 Market  
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Benning Road Library  
3935 Benning Rd. SE

Anacostia Library  
1800 Good Hope Rd. SE

Ft. Davis Community Center  
1400 41st St. SE

Francis Gregory Library  
2100 36th Pl SE

Washington Seniors Wellness  
3001 Alabama Ave SE,

Hillcrest Recreation Center  
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Francis A. Gregory  
Neighborhood Library

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## WARD 8

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Preparatory Academy  
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The Big Chair Coffee Shop  
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701 Mississippi Ave. SE

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Secrets of Nature Health Food Centers  
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Excel Pharmacy  
3923-A S Capitol St SW

Kingdom Care Senior Village  
814 Alabama Ave SE \Washington DC 20032

New Life Ministries - DC  
3309 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE  
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## March Horoscopes

### ARIES

Aries, think about buying new shoes in March. You will need to move a lot and spring is pounding on your door. For the third month of 2019, horoscope also encourages Aries to forget being shy – look for the sunshine and company. The blessed bundles of photon beams stemming from the nearest star are able to recharge your exhausted mental batteries. March is also the month when Aries may excel at work.

### TAURUS

According to horoscope March is the ideal time for a change of your hairstyle. Taurus, change the shade, colour, length, shape or simply everything! But remember, hairstyle does not change what's hidden under, that means your mind. The flames of love also seem to be within reach. Therefore, if Taurus feels that her or his heart is like a cold stove, you should write down instructions on what to do when your hormones will reach the boiling point.

### GEMINI

March will seem like an impenetrable web to Gemini. But do not despair. On the contrary, our horoscope may introduce a challenge how Gemini will improve the ability to cope with the increasingly complex world around us. The globe is linked from America to China by invisible threads – from the Internet wires to the subtle fabric of all business contracts. Gemini will find refuge provided by love, family or friends.

### CANCER

Cancer, March 2019 will be the perfect challenge for your back and spine. Literally, but as well symbolically. You should take care of the proper position when sitting at a computer, buy an excellent mattress and above all enjoy some healthy exercise. In figurative sense, Cancer's horoscope encourages to act "straight" and do not bend your back to please others.



### LEO

Although you are the "king of animals", Leo should realize that one is learning all his / her life and thus you are a beginner all the time. Even if you are 50, you may decide to start studying neurochemistry, equestrian psychology, horology or viticulture. But it does not mean anything to you? Do not mind, and do something simpler, for example gardening.

### VIRGO

Watch out for forgetfulness. In March, Virgo can forget the keys, the wallet, but also the fact that you have a family and good education. The horoscope admits that Virgo may easily get "second wind". Virgo starts to be attracted to broader society, improvisation and exotics (and sometimes even eroticism).

### LIBRA

If you let your anger get the better of you today it could be you who suffers the most as a result. As one of those pleasant, balanced Libra type's people expect you to stay calm and won't be impressed if you lose your head.

### SCORPIO

Scorpio, do not let yourself be captivate by a stream of thoughts or fantasies. The horoscope suggests that love or impulsive feelings can take precedence over your decision-mak-

ing. Of course it is often a wonderful experience to be carried away by the "here and now" atmosphere.

### SAGITTARIUS

The right size is the key. Sagittarius should keep in mind that a fancy dress is good for a fairy tale, but you need a garment that fits exactly to your character. Why? Because, according to the horoscope, your clothes, visage, scent and the overall appearance will be more important than ever. Especially as a subliminal means of communication when Sagittarius wants to be silent but still tell others what he or she feels.

### CAPRICORN

Capricorn's horoscope urges him / her to forgive and to abandon retaliation. If someone scratches your car while parking, such villain could be beheaded immediately; of course only if you were the only judge. But be sure that the world would not be better. Likewise, neither a sarcastic friend nor a vigorous mother-in-law should cover the whole March with black clouds.

### AQUARIUS

Beware of a broken tire. Aquarius, in the third month of 2019 you will certainly not lack courage. But you should anticipate the volatility of luck and be prepared that even modern technology may disappoint you at the least appropriate moment. Do you have an appointment? The horoscope strongly encourages: Do not forget to plan ahead – to always arrive on time; even if there will be a traffic congestion, or if the weather goes mad, or if your digestion turns into your worst enemy.

### PISCES

Pisces, the horoscope for March forecasts a number of errors that you will encounter and which will not be pleasant at all. Anyway, the third month of 2019 is the growth one, thus be sure you are slowly achieving your goal, step by step.



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