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TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014 · WASHINGTONPOST.COM/REGIONAL

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JOHN KELLY'S WASHINGTON
 Filmmakers are working on a "you-are-there" documentary about the early D.C. punk scene. **B3**



VIRGINIA
 A judge expected to rule Tuesday on ex-governor McDonnell's bid to have charges dismissed. **B4**



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PHOTOS BY MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

Age-in-place service at risk

Advocates say volunteer program needs more help from District budget

BY TARA BAHRAMPOUR

Standing on her front porch, Betty Jean Jones waved her cane at her scraggly bushes and overgrown front lawn, indicating what needed to be done. The fact that six energetic young volunteers stood ready with rakes, clippers and a mower was a blessing on a gorgeous spring day — but it was also crucial to helping the retired federal employee remain in the Northeast Washington home she has lived in since 1976.

In recent years, hip replacement surgery and arthritis have made it hard for Jones, who lives alone, to get around. As the volunteers, five students from a Charlottesville middle school and their supervisor, crouched on their knees pulling weeds, she shuddered to contemplate what she would do without them. "I couldn't do this on my own, I just couldn't," she said.

But the program that brought them there — Home First, which is run by the nonprofit Seabury Resources for Aging — says that under the proposed city budget,



At top, Cyrus Frost, 14, mows the lawn at the District home of Betty Jean Jones, pictured above. Cyrus and other volunteers from a Charlottesville, Va., middle school came to do yard work for Jones as part of Home First's age-in-place service, which is in danger of being eliminated by a city budget shortfall.

it might not have enough money next year to continue its 20-year-old age-in-place component, which provides regular home help to about 300 older District residents in wards 4 and 5.

Home First, which also runs three group homes for low-income formerly homeless seniors in Ward 5, had for many years received a third of its budget from outside donors and sponsors, a third through small payments from the older recipients themselves, and a third from the District through its Office on Aging.

But in recent years, after some of its long-standing outside sponsorship dissolved, the program found itself running a deficit and turned to the city for additional help. Last year, D.C. Council member Kenyan R. McDuffie (D-Ward 5) found a one-time amount of \$250,000 to help keep the program afloat. But that money was not repeated in this year's budget, which senior service advocates say falls \$3.5 million short of what is needed for community services overall.

HOME FIRST CONTINUED ON B3

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Using Hitler for a bus ad is an abuse of free speech

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Deal to build soccer stadium said to

Filmmakers aim to show early D.C. punk scene in the raw



John Kelly's Washington

The movie film that passes through Paul Bishow's hands represents both ends, the alpha and the omega, of the cinematic spectrum.

Paul is a projectionist at a Smithsonian Imax theater, regularly handling reels of that format's large, meticulously shot 70mm film. Thirty years ago, he chronicled the District's nascent, sweaty punk rock scene with a hand-held Super 8 camera, each frame just 8mm wide.

"With 70mm, each picture looks like a postcard," Paul said. "With Super 8, people need a magnifying glass to see what's on there."

Paul has spent a lot of time looking at those days through a magnifying glass, both literally and metaphorically. He and James Schneider, another local filmmaker, are on the homestretch of their documentary, "Punk the Capital:

Straight From Washington, D.C." They hope to raise \$43,000 on Kickstarter by June 14 to complete the film. (When last I checked, they were at \$13,154. Operators are standing by.)

Paul came to Washington in 1978 from Long Island. He didn't really intend to stay, but he was drawn into the fervent, fertile scene that coalesced at Madam's Organ — not the Adams Morgan blues bar of today but an artist's collective on 18th Street NW that hosted music and film.

"The Organ itself was a very open-minded place," Paul said. "That was one of the best things about it. One of the things that really attracted me was the closeness of the audience and the bands. They were often the same people. You'd have people in the audience this week and next week they'd be forming a band, too."

That kind of sums up punk in a nutshell.

Eumig camera in hand, Paul captured the early days: punk, hardcore, straight edge and new wave at places such as Madam's

Organ and d.c. space. He has more than eight hours of footage, including early performances by one of the most interesting bands ever to come from Washington: Bad Brains, black musicians playing what was primarily white music, inspired by — of all things — self-help author Napoleon Hill's work. Their blitzkrieg attack would echo in bands such as Fugazi.

"Bad Brains, you really recognized them as being great," Paul said. "The first time you saw them, they were like amazing."

Paul is 62 and once managed the Biograph movie theater in Georgetown. His co-director, James, 42, came of age in the District a generation later, obsessed with the bands spawned in the wake of the 1978-'80 explosion "Punk the Capital" focuses on. He's made films with the Makeup and Chain & the Gang, and directed a documentary about French filmmaker Jean Epstein.

The current project's gestation has been a long one. The earliest

efforts at making the movie started more than a decade ago. Since then, another documentary — "Salad Days: The Birth of Punk in the Nation's Capital" — has neared completion. Is there room for (at least) two D.C. punk movies?

"We're hoping these films will all be complementary," James said. "We're all working simultaneously to bring this big story together. It's a really rich and long story, and I think it will take several films to do it justice."

On June 10, the Black Cat will host a fundraising event for "Punk the Capital." Paul and James will screen some sections of their in-progress film. They promise a surprise: footage of what James described as "an important band from 1979 that nobody's seen."

For now, the movie's structure is basically planked out. Most of the interviews — with the likes of Dischord's Ian MacKaye — are done. Part of the money from the Kickstarter crowdfunding campaign will be used to transfer Paul's original footage to a more

stable, high-definition digital format. It will join a D.C. punk archive being assembled by the D.C. Public Library's Special Collections department.

Said Paul: "Super 8 film, even though it's old, has this sort of quality that I don't think you'd get [with other formats]. It just has a really you-are-there quality to it."

Thanks to Paul, you can be there, too.

Born on the Bayou

Bad Brains played at the Bayou in Georgetown once before being banned. (They opened for the Damned.) A documentary about that legendary club — "The Bayou: D.C.'s Killer Joint" — has been nominated for a local Emmy award. It's up against "The Kennedy Half Century," a documentary based on Larry Sabato's book about the late president's lasting influence.

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For previous columns, visit
washingtonpost.com/johnkelly.

Program might face budget shortfall

HOME FIRST FROM B1

The council is set to vote June 11 on the budget for the fiscal year starting October 1, pending Congressional approval.

If Home First — which has an overall budget of \$627,000 — cannot find an additional \$250,000 for the coming year, it will likely have to end its age-in-place arm, which costs \$215,000 annually, said its project director, Regine Clermont. The money is used to pay for the aging-in-place administrative staff, maintenance and repair materials, and insurance and other expenses.

"I don't know the future of the program," she said, adding that she requested earlier this month that the council continue funding the program at the level it did this year. The program has a waiting list of 40 people, she said, adding that she had hoped to expand it into other wards.

Clermont estimated that Home First's age-in-place program, which last year used nearly 3,000 volunteers to help with 379 service projects, saves the city over \$200,000 a year by providing services, such as lawn maintenance, that would otherwise fall into the city's lap.

Last year, after seniors and their advocates rallied at city hall, the council increased the office on aging's budget for home-delivered meals, ward-based case management, and upgrades to transportation services. All of these are included in the mayor's proposed budget this year, as well as an additional \$2 million for wellness programs and other senior services.

The proposed budget for fiscal year 2015 had been \$42 million; in a May 14 budget markup, the council's health committee chair, Yvette Alexander, proposed an increase of \$1 million for commu-



Lilly Van Liew, 13, left, talks with Betty Jean Jones as she and other young volunteers from Charlottesville, Va., do yardwork.

MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

nity services facing shortfalls, to be covered by shifting funds from another agency under the committee's jurisdiction.

But the DC Senior Advisory Coalition, an umbrella organization for senior service groups, said the shortfalls add up to \$3.5 million and they requested that the budget be increased by that much.

Among over a dozen agencies likely to face shortfalls are Home Care Partners, a non-profit agency that provides home care services such as meals, housekeeping, personal care for people who are not eligible for Medicaid but cannot afford to pay for the services, and Downtown Clusters Geriatric Day Care, which provides full day facility care for people with physical or mental disabilities, said Elizabeth Fox, coordinator of the coalition.

Some of these agencies, including Home First and Home Care Partners, have in the past year

"Other local programs come and go, but this one has been in place and grown."

Elizabeth Fox, coordinator of the DC Senior Advisory Coalition, talking about Home First's age-in-place program

faced increased costs due to the Living Wage Act, which requires a higher wages for employees such as drivers and home care workers, Fox said.

Home First's age-in-place program is important to sustain because it is "a perfect example of a grassroots response to a problem in every neighborhood in DC where older people struggle to do the maintenance required to stay in their homes," Fox said.

"Other local programs come and go, but this one has been in place and grown," she said, adding that Home First's age-in-place program reaches more people than other similar services.

The Office on Aging said Monday in an emailed statement that its executive director, John Thompson, "is confident the Mayor's proposed budget is sufficient." The statement added that Thompson is aware of the concerns of Home First and the advisory coalition and said that "at

present, there is no way to know whether Home First and Seabury will experience a funding shortfall in the upcoming fiscal year."

A spokesperson for the Office on Aging said that after the budget comes out the office has the discretion to "reprogram" or divert funds from one line item to another item.

Sitting in her dining room, Jones said she receives services from different groups of volunteers provided by Home First every month or so. Behind her, the window was covered up with plastic insulation that an earlier group had installed.

Such services, which cost her a fraction of what she would have to pay on the open market, have helped her stay in her home, she said.

"People don't realize how hard it is if a person has to move and they've been somewhere all their lives," she said. "It's devastating." tara.bahrapour@washpost.com

THE DISTRICT

Study highlights dangers faced by pedestrians in urban areas

BY ASHLEY HALSEY III

topped the scale, with Orlando ranking first with a 244.

20 percent of all traffic fatalities were pedestrians. In New York

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