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DC cracks down on homeless camps

Move follows federal takeover of police force

Christopher Cann
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – Under the blazing sun, people living in homeless encampments in Washington packed up their

belongings before authorities moved in with garbage trucks on Aug. 14 as President Donald Trump’s crackdown on the nation’s capital ramped up. At a camp a few miles from the Lincoln Memorial and the Kennedy Center,

about eight people broke down their tents with the help of city workers and homeless advocacy groups. “(The president) is targeting us and persecuting us,” said David Beatty, a man living in the encampment that Trump posted a photo of on social media Aug. 10. “He wants to take our freedom away.”

The moves came days after Trump assumed federal control of the city’s police department and mobilized the National Guard, declaring a “crime emergency” and vowing to clear homeless people off the streets. Cities across the United States, See HOMELESS, Page 2A



Anne Shimojima greets attendees after telling her story at Flatwater Tales Storytelling Festival event at the American Museum of Science and Energy, in Oak Ridge on June 6. PHOTOS BY CAITIE MCMEKIN/NEWS SENTINEL

Shimojima enchants audience with folk tales, literary stories

Carolyn Krause
Special to The Oak Ridger

Anne Shimojima is a storyteller’s storyteller. Speaking flawlessly in simple words and short sentences she’s memorized, she enchanted her Oak Ridge audiences this summer by relating folk tales and literary stories. She transported us to a realm where people unhappily embracing power, wealth and material goods are transformed; they learn to appreciate the simple joys experienced by even the poorest of people – love, dancing, music and, yes, stories.



Attendees chat before Anne Shimojima tells the story of her Japanese American family at a Flatwater Tales Storytelling Festival event at the American Museum of Science and Energy.

Japanese students, Scouts, adults will spend week in Oak Ridge

The Oak Ridger
The Oak Ridger

Oak Ridge will welcome two groups of students from the city’s Japanese sister city of Naka shi this week through the Sister City Support Organization, which is celebrating the 35th anniversary of the relationship between the two cities. Students and chaperones from Oak Ridge’s Jefferson and Robertsville middle schools will host one group of nine middle school students and two chaperones from Tuesday afternoon, Aug.19, to Tuesday morning, Aug. 26. Oak Ridge Girl Scouts are welcoming a group of eight high school age girls and three leaders from Monday, Aug. 18, to Saturday, Aug. 23. The group that will stay with Oak Ridge students’ families are expected to land at McGhee Tyson Airport before 5 p.m. Tuesday and be brought to Robertsville’s cafeteria for an ice cream social, where they’ll meet their Oak Ridge hosts and go to their week-long homes. Other plans for the students and chaperones, according to information supplied by the Sister City Support Organization, include going to the two schools, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the Spallation Neutron Source, the Oak Ridge Bowling Center, Oak Ridge High School, the American Museum of Science and Energy, Briarcliff community pool, the Museum of Appalachia in Clinton, the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and the Sunsphere in Knoxville. This is the third time Naka Girl Scouts from Troop 37 have sent girls to Oak Ridge. The last time was in 2014 and some of the girls who came then are returning as leaders. The Girl Scouts are staying in host homes with Oak Ridge Girl Scout leaders and Sister City Support Organization supporters.

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