

May 2, 2018



# THE COMMUNICATOR!

Marshall Heights Community Development Organization, Inc. Newsletter  
News, and Updates of What's Going On, In, And Around Ward 7!

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## MAY IS NATIONAL HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE EDUCATION MONTH

What you don't know about high blood pressure could hurt you. High blood pressure affects one in three Americans, yet many people with the condition don't know they have it.

Uncontrolled high blood pressure raises the risk for heart disease and stroke, which are leading causes of death in the United States. Fortunately, high blood pressure is treatable and preventable. To lower your risk, **get your blood pressure checked regularly** and take action to control your blood pressure if it is too high.

### 5 Surprising Facts About High Blood Pressure

1. High blood pressure may be linked to dementia.
2. Young people can have high blood pressure, too.
3. High blood pressure usually doesn't have any symptoms.
4. Many people who have high blood pressure don't know it.
5. Women and minorities face unique risks when it comes to high blood pressure.

**What You Can Do.** By living a healthy lifestyle, you can help keep your blood pressure in a healthy range and lower your risk for heart disease and stroke. A healthy lifestyle includes:

- ◆ Eating a healthy diet
- ◆ Maintaining a healthy weight
- ◆ Getting enough physical activity
- ◆ Not smoking
- ◆ Limiting alcohol use Learn more about steps you can take to prevent high blood pressure.

[Read More](#)

## VOTE TUESDAY, JUNE 19TH IN THE 2018 PRIMARY ELECTION

Polls will be open from 7am to 8pm.

[Read More.](#)

[Click here](#) for a list of 2018 Democratic Candidates.

[Click here](#) for a list of 2018 Republican Candidates.

## DC CAREER CONNECTIONS

DC Career Connections is a work readiness program designed to provide out-of-school and unemployed young adults ages 20-24 with opportunities to gain valuable work experience, skills training, and individualized coaching and support to obtain employment. The program actively seeks to engage District youth in targeted Police Service Areas (PSAs) across the District, including: 602 Mayfair/Deanwood / Lincoln Heights / River Terrace, 604 Capitol View/ Benning Heights / Benning Terrace, 705 Congress Park, and 702 Woodland Terrace. Participants can participate in the program for up to nine months, working up to 40 hours per week at a training wage of \$9.00 per hour. [Read More.](#)

## INCLUSIONARY ZONING

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 a Inclusionary Zoning Orientation class which is provided by MHCDO on the **4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm.** Call 202-396-1200 for more information.

## MHCDO IS NOW PARTICIPATING WITH SMILE.AMAZON.COM !!!! YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!!

What is AmazonSmile? AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support MHCDO every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion (0.5%) of the purchase price to MHCDO.

Follow this link to: <https://smile.amazon.com> and choose:

**Marshall Heights Community Development Organization**

as your charity of choice.

## FREE RESOURCES AND/OR REDUCED FEE PROGRAMS FOR DISTRICT RESIDENTS

Are you aware of programs that benefit District Residents such as free smoke detectors, radon and lead test kits, home fire safety and lead based paint inspections, and more? [Click here for more information.](#)

## JOIN OUR MAIL LIST!

Don't miss important events and information.

Click [here](#) to join.



## MAY 2018 DC FIRST FRIDAYS

The next "DC First Fridays" event will take place on **May 4, 2018, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm** at MHCDO, located at 3939 Benning Road NE, Washington, DC 20019. The Guest Speaker will be [At-Large DC Councilmember Robert White](#). The Topic of

Discussion will be "Economic Developments, Housing, and Neighborhood Revitalization in the Ward 7 Community." Contact Vivian Mercer at 202-650-5621 for additional information. Click [here](#) to RSVP. Plan to attend and network.

## 10TH ANNUAL DC HOUSING EXPO AND HOME SHOW

Mark your calendars now for the 10th Annual DC Housing Expo and Home Show, hosted by the DC Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). This event will occur **Saturday, June 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. It celebrates "National Homeownership Month," as promoted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Expo also has a District-centered theme of "June Housing Bloom," which recognizes how the District produces and preserves affordable housing, spurs development in underserved communities and ensures that residents of all backgrounds can afford to live and thrive in the city. The Expo provides invaluable information and guidance for homeowners, home buyers, tenants, seniors, youth, and small businesses. [Click here](#) to register online and sign up for workshops.

## WARDS 7 AND 8 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Interested in what is happening in Wards 7 and 8 on a daily or monthly basis? Listed on the calendar are farmers markets, health, educational, recreational, cultural, volunteer, and many other kinds of events, activities, and opportunities to engage. [Read more.](#)



Marshall Heights Community Development Organization, Inc.  
The Lloyd D. Smith Center  
3939 Benning Road NE  
Washington, DC 20020  
202-396-1200  
[www.mhcdo.org](http://www.mhcdo.org)

## NEWS FROM WARD 7 COUNCILMEMBER VINCENT GRAY

Ward 7 Legislative Update—APRIL 20, 2018

[Read More](#)

## NEWS FROM MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER

4/5/18 Vol. 4, Issue 14, [Read More](#)

### OPPORTUNITY ZONES SELECTED

On April 20, 2018, Mayor Bowser nominated 25 census tracts to be Opportunity Zones to the U.S. Treasury for certification. The Opportunity Zones program was established by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 to encourage long-term investments in low-income urban and rural communities nationwide. The Opportunity Zones program provides a tax incentive for investors to re-invest their unrealized capital gains into Opportunity Funds.

The census tracts nominated for Ward 7 & 8 are:

**Ward 7:** 7709 (Twining, Dupont Park), 9602 (Mayfair), 7803 (Central Northeast), 7804 (Lincoln Heights), 6804 (Hill East, Lincoln Park), 7808 (Northeast Boundary, Grant Park), 9601 (Kenilworth, Eastland Gardens), 7806 (Deanwood) and 9603 (Benning), 7604 (Hillcrest, Randle Highlands), 7603 (Naylor Gardens, Fairfax Village);

**Ward 8:** 10900 (Bellevue), 10400 (Congress Heights), 7601 (Fairlawn), 7407 (Fort Stanton), 7503 (Historic Anacostia), 7401 (Barry Farm, Poplar Point), 7304 (Congress Heights)

To learn more about the program, view an interactive map and download census tract data, visit: [dmped.dc.gov](http://dmped.dc.gov)

The tracts were selected with a focus on bringing new investment to communities most in need of jobs, commercial activity and amenities by leveraging actionable investment opportunities.

### SECOND SUNDAY'S JAZZ PRESENTS

The *Kristine Key Quartet* Musical Experience

May 13 @ 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm—FREE

A partnership with Anacostia Arts Center and East River Jazz, Second Sundays Jazz brings FREE monthly jazz performances to Anacostia. Location: Anacostia Arts Center, 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC, 20020, Tel. # 202.631.6291.

[Read More](#)

### FOR TEENS: OPEN MIC NIGHT

Every Wednesday at 5 p.m., [Capitol View Library](#) invites you to share your favorite song, poem, rhyme, rap or performance. Not performing? Bring a friend, watch and enjoy. Fun for ages 13-19.

### KIDS RUN THE BASES AT NAT'S PARK

By Kathleen Donner, East of the River, 4/17/18

Kids ages 4 to 12 can run the bases after every Sunday day game. Dates this season are: **May 5; June 9 and 23; and Sept. 22.** An adult must accompany runners to the field. Starting at first base, kids will be directed to run around the bases as the adults continue along the warning track and meet the runners near home plate. The line forms outside of the park on the sidewalk along First Street.

[Click here](#) for the Washington Nationals website.

### MAYOR BOWSER HIGHLIGHTS PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MPD AND UDC-CC AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

First-Of-Its-Kind Training Course Will Focus on the African American Experience in Washington, DC. Mayor Muriel Bowser on 4/13/18 celebrated a partnership between the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and the University of the District of Columbia Community College (UDC-CC) at the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC). Through the partnership, all sworn and civilian members at MPD will participate in a training course that provides insight into the African American experience in the District and the history of neighborhoods in Washington, DC. "When residents and officers trust each other and understand each other, we are all safer," said Mayor Bowser.

[Read More](#)

### Mayor Bowser Celebrates One of the Largest Municipal Solar Projects in the Country at HD Woodson High School

On Tuesday, April 17, Mayor Muriel Bowser kicked off #EarthWeekDC by cutting the ribbon at HD Woodson High School in Ward 7 to celebrate the launch of one of the largest on-site solar projects in the country. HD Woodson is one of roughly 50 District government facilities with a solar photovoltaic (PV) system. With a combined 670 kilowatt (kW) solar roof and parking lot installation, it is the most powerful solar power generating system in the District.

Together, solar arrays on the 50 government sites, including schools, recreation centers, MPD facilities, as well as a hospital and warehouse, generate more than 11 megawatts of solar electricity.

### FREE BOOKS PROGRAM CHANGES CHILDREN

From Washington Informer, 3/20/18 (By Amiyah King, Howard University News Service, 3/14/18). The D.C. Public Library, in conjunction by city Council member Charles Allen, tapped into the program in 2016 and created Books from Birth, which provides children up to five free books that are mailed to their homes, one each month.

Currently, more than 27,000 Washington families are registered with the public library, which has sent out 431,060 books since the program's inception, said Michael Linder, who coordinates the program for the library.

Another 5,605 children have "graduated" from the program after turning age 6, Linder said. The program is an effort to close the literacy gap in Wards 1, 5, 7 and 8, he said. To register to receive free books, go to <https://www.dclibrary.org/freebooks>.

[Read More](#)

### D.C.'S DEANWOOD IS SLOWLY GENTRIFYING

By Special to the AFRO, 2/1/18

Deanwood, a Northeast neighborhood in D.C.'s Ward 7, has been a Black enclave for over a century, but in a few years, it will become a part of the District's gentrifying areas.

Deanwood is located in the far Northeast corner of the District and is bounded by Eastern Avenue to the northeast, sharing a border with Prince George's County, Md., and Kenilworth Avenue to the northwest, Division Avenue to the Southeast and Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue to the south. While Deanwood is one of the oldest Black neighborhoods in the District, longtime residents see a change is coming.

[Read More](#)

### WARD 7 CONSTRUCTION OPPORTUNITY FAIR—MAY 5TH

Presented by City Interests Bozzuto Construction and TNB & Associates

To help realize the vision of Parkside, developers have committed that 51% of all infrastructure and construction jobs will be filled by Ward 7 residents.

Opportunities for Skilled and Unskilled Workers are available! You're invited to learn more about employment opportunities on the Parkside Development Project.

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 5, 2018, 11:30am-2:00pm

**WHERE:** Department of Employment Services  
4058 Minnesota Ave NE, Washington, DC 20019

Register to attend at [www.parksidedc.com/jobs](http://www.parksidedc.com/jobs)

**Bring copies of your resume & certifications.**

For more information contact TNB & Associates at 202-678-8201 or [info@tnbassociates.com](mailto:info@tnbassociates.com).



### HILL EAST

The Hill East mixed-use development will bring affordable housing, retail and community green space to Ward 7. Donatelli Development plans to

develop two parcels at the Stadium-Armory Metro station, currently the site of government agency parking lots and a portion of the 67-acre site known as Reservation 13, there will eventually be two mixed-use buildings with a respective 91 and 253 residential units. Both buildings will have ground-floor retail and underground parking; they will straddle C Street where it intersects 19th Street SE. Reservation 13 has been part of Ward 7 since a 2011 redistricting.

[Read More](#)



### DEDICATION OF SOME CONWAY CENTER

Father John Adams, President of SOME, the SOME Board of Directors, and Corporate Advisory Board cordially invite you to the Dedication Ceremony of the SOME Conway Center on Saturday, **May 19th at 11:00am**. The center is the first facility in the District of Columbia that provides affordable housing, job training, and health care in a single location. Tours and open house will be held from 11:30am to 2:00pm. Complimentary valet parking will be provided. The building is located at 4430 Benning Road in NE, DC, directly across from the Benning Road Metro station.

## EMPLOYER ASSISTED HOUSING PROGRAM (EAHP)

The Employer-Assisted Housing Program (EAHP) offers eligible District government employees and first responders a deferred, 0% interest loan and a matching funds grant for down payment and closing costs to purchase their first single family home, condominium, or cooperative unit in the District. The down payment assistance is a loan for the purchase of a principal residence in the District. The loan has zero interest, and no payments are required until the property is: (1) sold or transferred; (2) no longer occupied as principal residence; or (3) refinanced with cash out. There is no income cap for EAHP applicants, nor is there a cash contribution requirement. [Read More.](#)

## HOME PURCHASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (HPAP)

The Home Purchase Assistance (HPAP) program provides interest-free loans and closing cost assistance to qualified applicants to purchase single family houses, condominiums, or cooperative units. The loan amount is based on a combination of factors, including income, household size, and the amount of assets that each applicant must commit toward a property's purchase. As of 2017, eligible applicants can receive a maximum of \$80,000 in gap financing assistance and an additional \$4,000 in closing cost assistance. [Read More.](#)

## JOB FAIR

In partnership with the DC Dream Center and Anacostia River Church, Flourish Now will be hosting a FREE job fair at the DC Dream Center, Q St. & 28th Pl. SE, Washington, DC 20020, **Thursday, May 24 at 11 AM - 2 PM.** Call 202.575.3337 for more information. [Click here](#) to register.

## NCI RELEASES 2016-2017 ANNUAL STAKEHOLDER REPORT

The New Communities Initiative (NCI) has released a 2016 - 2017 Stakeholder Report that shows the progress made across its four communities which include **Lincoln Heights/Richardson Dwellings and Barry Farm.** The report reveals the work done over the past two years, progress on the development projects and within the communities, and the next steps. The report also highlights the stance on responsible relocation and return, and the changes made within NCI to ensure quicker movement on development, more transparency and collaboration with stakeholders. [Click here](#) to read the report.

## 2018 ANIMAL HEALTH FAIRS FOR DOGS AND CATS

**FREE VACCINATIONS • DOG LICENSES • EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS LEARN ABOUT ANIMAL LAWS • "ASK THE VETERINARIAN"**

**WARD 7** Saturday, June 2, 9:00 am – 11:30 am  
Triangle Park 3500 blk Croffut Pl. & Minnesota Ave. SE Washington, DC 20019

**WARD 8** Saturday, June 2, 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm  
Anacostia Rec. Ctr. (Anacostia Park) 1800 Anacostia Dr. SE Washington, DC 20023. [Read More.](#)

## MAYOR BOWSER LAUNCHES RIGHT CARE, RIGHT NOW INITIATIVE

April 19, 2018, Mayor Muriel Bowser launched the *Right Care, Right Now* initiative, which connects 911 callers with less serious and non-life-threatening injuries and conditions to primary care providers near their homes, helping preserve resources for serious emergencies. With the addition of a nurse triage line to the Office of Unified Communications, some 911 callers who may be better served and treated in a primary care setting, will be transferred to a nurse. If a nurse agrees that a caller may be best served in a primary care setting, the nurse will identify a doctor's office in the caller's neighborhood where the patient will be able to receive medical care the very same day. [Read More.](#)

## A TEMPORARY WIN FOR BARRY FARM TENANTS AS REDEVELOPMENT HALTED BY COURT

By *Sasha-Ann Simons, WAMU, 4/26/18*

Residents of the Barry Farm public housing project in Anacostia won a victory in the courts Thursday in their long-standing effort to avoid being relocated.

The District has been trying for a decade to remake the property into a 1,400-unit mixed-income development, with new public spaces and retail shops. But current residents of the historically African American complex insist that the D.C. Housing Authority redevelop the site before their housing is demolished. That way residents could remain within the community in which they now live. [Read More.](#)

## THE WASHINGTON DC ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP (WDCEP) RELEASES 2018 DC NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILES

Explore all 54 of DC's commercial neighborhoods. [Click here](#) to access the Neighborhood Profiles Guide. Ward 7 & 8 neighborhoods highlighted.

## 203(K) REHABILITATION MORTGAGE INSURANCE

### Limited 203(k) Mortgage

FHA's Limited 203(k) program permits homebuyers and homeowners to finance up to \$35,000 into their mortgage to repair, improve, or upgrade their home. Homebuyers and homeowners can quickly and easily tap into cash to pay for property repairs or improvements, such as those identified by a home inspector or an FHA appraiser. Homeowners can make property repairs, improvements, or prepare their home for sale. Homebuyers can make their new home move-in ready by remodeling the kitchen, painting the interior or purchasing new carpet.

### 203(k) Mortgage

The Section 203(k) program is FHA's primary program for the rehabilitation and repair of single family properties. As such, it is an important tool for community and neighborhood revitalization, as well as to expand homeownership opportunities. [Read More.](#)

## JC NALLE SUMMER SPORTS CAMP

JC Nalle Community School is looking for coaches for its Summer Sports Camp **June 25—July 27, 12-6pm.** The Sports Camp is for students 7-12 years old and will offer tennis, soccer, football, baseball, basketball and cheerleading. If interested send resume and cover letter with Subject Line: Summer Camp to La'Mont Geddis at: [jcnalearfterschool@gmail.com](mailto:jcnalearfterschool@gmail.com)

## JC NALLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL ANNUAL PARENT SUMMIT

In order to promote both parent and community engagement, NCCF organizes an annual Parent Summit for J.C. Nalle families that is open to all Marshall Heights community members. This event will be held on **Saturday, May 12, 2018, 9:00am** and brings a variety of vendors to J.C. Nalle who offer information on relevant services including: DCPS happenings, housing, GED/ABE completion, financial management and credit, health (including on-site dental, eye, blood pressure, and diabetes screenings). The Parent Summit also allows parents who are entrepreneurs to showcase their products. Free food, child care, workshops, giveaways and much more will be provided.

## SMALL BUSINESS CAPITAL

Do you need seed money to open your own business? Looking for payroll assistance or line of credit for business expansion? Looking for business investors? DISB administers programs that facilitate access to capital for District small businesses and entrepreneurs. [Click here](#), to learn more about DCBizCAP or contact DISB on (202) 727-8000.

## STUDENT LOAN DEBT

Have you gotten a call about consolidating your student loans? Need help in navigating the student loan repayment process? Want to know more about loan forgiveness programs? To get a review of your student loan situation, contact the District's Student Loan Ombudsman at (202) 727-8000 or [DCLoanHelp@dc.gov](mailto:DCLoanHelp@dc.gov).

## TRACE YOUR FAMILY ROOTS

Interested in tracing your family history? Not sure where or how to begin? Learn tips and how to utilize resources available to start researching your family history. This program is offered in partnership with the DC Public Library and the Office of Public Record. Where: Francis Gregory Neighborhood Library, 3660 Alabama Ave SE Date & Time: **May 10, 2018 at 6:30 pm**, Conference Room#2 (2nd Floor).

## FREE FOOD

The No Limits Outreach Ministries Inc.'s Mobile Food Ministry provides free food to local residents every **Wednesday from 12:00-2:00** at the DC Dreams Center, 2826 Q Street SE. [Read More.](#)

## CHANGE COMES TO EXCEL ACADEMY DCPS SELECTS NEW EXCEL PRINCIPAL

By *Elizabeth O'Gorek, East of the River, 4/16/18*

After three months of uncertainty, students and families at Excel Academy (2501 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE) are finally sure that they can return to the school for the 2018-2019 academic year. The school will officially move to District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) under a new principal, Tenia Pritchard, in June 2018. An all-girls school serving preK-3 through grade eight, Excel Academy has the stated goal of "providing girls a solid academic foundation and enrichment opportunities to prepare them to succeed in high school and college and to develop the skills and confidence they need to make healthy, positive lifestyle choices."

Excel Academy had previously held a charter from the District of Columbia Public Charter School Board (DCPCSB). In January, DCPCSB voted unanimously to revoke Excel Academy's charter because the school had not met its charter goals. [Read More.](#)