



THE COMMUNICATOR!

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

In this issue:

- November is National Family Caregivers Month
- November is also American Diabetes Month
- November DC First Friday
- December DC First Friday
- Free or Reduced Fee Resources
- Home Savers Program
- New Program: Vets Ride
- What's Next for the United Medical Center?
- Rehab Program
- Inclusionary Zoning
- Wards 7 and 8 Community Calendar
- 183-Unit "Town Center" Proposed in Deanwood
- DC's "Grocery Walk" Highlights Limited Food
- Uber To Open DC's First Driver Support Center
- Should "East of the River" be Rebranded?
- 3,200 Residential Units Planned for Anacostia
- Chancellor's Monthly Community Forums
- What's Going on With Reservation 13?
- Barry Farm Dwellings Raze Applications
- DC Holiday Pajama Drive
- Sixth District 6D Neighborhood Watch Training
- DCPS Dollars4College Newsletter
- Mayor Reopens DOES Job Center
- NAACP Listening Tour
- Restaurant, Retail and Office Planned
- The Benning Library Offers A-Step Tutoring
- Affordable Housing Units for Greenway
- Bill to Honor Bicentennial of Frederick Douglas
- OPC Warns Consumers about a new Scam
- Mahogany Books Opens East of the River
- Anacostia's Busboys and Poets Opening Later

November is National Family Caregivers Month

Caregiving can be a 24-hours a day/7-days a week job. Caring for a senior with Alzheimer's or an illness or a child with special needs can be non-stop. Providing care around the clock can crowd out other important areas of life. And you never know when you will need to rush to the hospital or leave work at the drop of a hat. What challenges do family caregivers face, and how do they manage them day and night? [Click here for "10 Tips for Family Caregivers."](#)

November is also American Diabetes Month

Diabetes is one of the leading causes of disability and death in the United States. It can cause blindness, nerve damage, kidney disease, and other health problems if it's not controlled. One in 10 Americans have diabetes — that's more than 30 million people. And another 84 million adults in the United States are at high risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

The good news? People who are at high risk for type 2 diabetes can lower their risk by more than half if they make healthy changes. These changes include: eating healthy, getting more physical activity, and losing weight. [Read More.](#)

DECEMBER DC FIRST FRIDAY

The next "DC First Friday" event will take place on December 1, 2017, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at MHCDO, located at 3939 Benning Road NE, Washington, DC 20019. The Guest Speaker will be Mayor Muriel Bowser. Contact Vivian Mercer at 202-650-5621 to RSVP or for additional information. Plan to attend.

HOME SAVERS PROGRAM

Did You Know the District of Columbia has MONEY available to help DC Homeowners facing foreclosure? Are You Having Problems Paying Your Mortgage? To find out if you can qualify for up to \$60,000 in a forgivable loan to prevent foreclosure on your home, contact MHCDO, 3939 Benning Road, NE, Washington, DC 20019. For additional information call 202-396-1200.

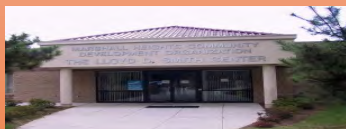
WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE UNITED MEDICAL CENTER?

(A Letter from DC Councilmember Ward 7, Vincent C. Gray)

Dear Friends,
On November 7th, the Council of the District of Columbia voted 7-6 not to renew the contract of Veritas of Washington LLC to operate and manage the United Medical Center. While many concerns about Veritas were raised in recent weeks, ultimately the issue for me as Chair of the Council Committee on Health came down to an issue of patient care and safety. [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 4th Thursday of every month from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm. Call 202-396-1200 for more information.



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The Lloyd D. Smith Center
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NOVEMBER DC FIRST FRIDAY

MHCDO held its November "DC First Fridays" event on November 3, 2017. The Guest Speaker was DC Councilmember Ward 7, Vincent C. Gray who discussed his "Business and Economic Plan for Ward 7." The guest panelist were Mr. Henry Gilford, President of Gilford Construction, Warren Williams of The Warrenton Group, and Jonathan Taylor of Kumase Development Associates.

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.](#)

NEW PROGRAM: VETS RIDE

The Mayor's Office on Veterans Affairs ("MOVA") is launching a pilot transportation program for District of Columbia (DC) veterans with the Department of For-Hire Vehicles. Program eligibility is restricted to veteran residents of Washington DC whose annual income is less than \$30,000. They will be eligible for free taxi rides to medical treatment and/or appointments, educational opportunities, and employment. For more information, call (202) 724-5454.

[Read More.](#)

REHAB PROGRAM

MHCDO provides information and assistance on How to Qualify for Up to \$75,000 For: Home Rehab* Roof Repair* Make Your Home Handicap Accessible * Delinquent Property Taxes and Mortgage* Property Taxes Deferment and, much more. Are you having difficulties paying your property taxes, mortgage or maintaining your home? If yes, Government money is available to help senior homeowners. Call 202-396-1200 for additional information.

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](#)

JOIN OUR MAIL LIST!

Don't miss important events and information. Click [here](#) to join.

183-Unit "Town Center" Proposed in Deanwood

By Nena Perry-Brown – DC
Urban Turf, 10/18/17

Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue in Deanwood is becoming a mini-hotbed for development. The Warrenton Group has applied for a planned-unit development (PUD) at 5110-5140 Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue NE in hopes of delivering over 180 residences above retail to the address. Currently, the site contains two parcels: a 71,891 square-foot parcel that is the present location of Holy Christian Missionary Baptist Church, and across an alley, a 13,619 square-foot parcel with a four-story office building. With the historic Strand Theater (and its adjacent proposed mixed-use development) right across the street, the developer envisions Nannie Helen Burroughs as a "main street" for the neighborhood. [Read More.](#)



Uber To Open D.C.'s First Driver Support Center In Ward 7

By Christina Sturdivant—dcist, 10/23/17

Uber is opening its first D.C. resource center in Ward 7. Mayor Muriel Bowser announced last week that the ride hailing company will open a "Greenlight Hub" at the East River Park Shopping Center in Northeast. "We are excited to work hand-in-hand with Uber to spread prosperity and create more pathways to the middle class for D.C. residents," Bowser said in a release. About 42,000 Uber drivers live in the D.C. region, according to Uber spokesperson Bill Gibbons. One third of drivers who are D.C. residents live in Wards 7 and 8. [Read More](#)

Laugh when you can,
Apologize when you should,
And let go of what you can't change.
Life's too short to be anything... but happy.
- Anonymous

Chancellor's Monthly Community Forums

Chancellor Antwan Wilson and DCPS Leadership are hosting Monthly Community Forums around the district to ensure our families and the broader community have an opportunity to provide feedback and help make critical decisions on the district's strategic priorities and initiatives. **The next Forum in Ward 7 is scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2017 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at Savoy Elementary School, 2400 Shannon Pl. SE, Washington, DC 20020.** Light Refreshments, Childcare and Interpretation Services will be provided. Call 202-719-6613 for additional information. [RSVP Here.](#)

Barry Farm Dwellings Raze Applications Submitted DC Housing Authority Seeks to Demolish More Than 100 Buildings

By John Muller - East of the River, 11/9/17

The DC Housing Authority (DHA) has applied to demolish more than a hundred housing units in Barry Farm Dwellings. Located within the boundaries of ANC 8C, these two-story, multi-family buildings run along the 1100 block and 1200 block of Eaton Road SE, 2600 block of Firth Sterling Avenue SE and include the 1100 and 1200 block of Sumner Road SE. They are across the street from the new Barry Farm Recreation and Aquatic Center. No buildings on Stevens Road SE were included. [Read More.](#)

Sixth District 6D Neighborhood Watch Training—11/30/17

The next Free Crime Prevention/Neighborhood Watch Training will be conducted on 11/30/17 at the 6th District MPD Station, Community Room 5002 Hayes Street NE 20019. If you would like to attend this training, please send an email to: NolanTutor@yahoo.com with your name and the area in which you live. Samantha Nolan, Citywide Crime Prevention/Neighborhood Watch Trainer.

DC's "Grocery Walk" Highlights Limited Food Options East of the Anacostia River—and Suggests Possible Solutions

By Sam Norton (Contributor), Dave Johnson
(Guest Contributor) - Greater Greater
Washington, 10/18/17

Ward 7 and 8 residents are demanding that the city improve access to healthy, affordable food in their neighborhoods. They want additional funding for grocery store and co-op development, and hope to maintain and expand existing food access programs. [Read more.](#)

Should "East of the River" be Rebranded as "East End"?

Links By Matt Gontachick (Contributor) - Greater
Greater Washington, 10/23/17

DC Ward 7 Councilmember Vincent Gray wants people to refer to the area east of the Anacostia River as the "East End" due to negative connotations surrounding "East of the River" and the success of rebranded neighborhoods like NoMa. (Perry Stein / Post). [Read More.](#)

3,200 Residential Units Planned for Anacostia

By Nena Perry-Brown - Urban Turf, 10/25/17

Whether you call it East of the River or East End, areas in Wards 7 and 8 have a slew of large-scale development on the boards. [Read More.](#)

Residential Units Planned for Deanwood and Congress Heights

By Nena Perry-Brown - Urban Turf, 10/26/17

After looking at the progress of residential development in and around Anacostia earlier this week, Urban Turf is continuing its run-down of east of the Anacostia River. [Read More.](#)

What's Going on With Reservation 13?

By Elizabeth O'Gorek - East of the River,
11/13/17

Reservation 13 has been the subject of development talk for the past decade and a half. Though a full development plan for the site was produced in consultation with the community in 2008, and a developer has been selected for work on two parcels, Capitol Hill residents are increasingly frustrated with the lack of progress. ...In 2011, Reservation 13 was redistricted to Ward 7, angering many Ward 6 residents who had worked on plans for the property. [Read More.](#)

DC HOLIDAY PAJAMA DRIVE- Brand New Pajama Drive

When: November 1 - December 16

Where: 6D Police Station is located at 5002 Hayes Street, NE 20019

How: A pajama donation bin is located in the 6D Station.

Please donate a set of new pajamas for kids and teens in DC's foster care system. We are trying to get a set of pajama's to the more than 1000 kids in the DC foster care system. In the last 6 years, we have collected more than 6,000 sets of pajamas from all 50 states and from around the world!

DCPS Dollars4College Newsletter

Need money for college? All DCPS high school students are provided access to college prep programming and opportunities. Check out the new edition of DCPS Dollars4College Newsletter!

[Read More.](#)



Mayor Reopens DOES Job Center on Minnesota Avenue NE

Agency Director says 'Our focus is in the right place'

By Elizabeth O'Gorek - East of the River, 11/15/17

Speaking at the grand opening of the newly redesigned American Job Center Headquarters (AJC HQ) at 4058 Minnesota Ave NE, Director of Department of Employment Services (DOES) Odie Donald II said, "What this symbolizes, that our focus is in the right place and we're making sure that everybody has the same access to services."

[Read More.](#)

NAACP Listening Tour Comes to Washington, DC—12/4/17 - 6:00pm

The NAACP DC Branch will host a Public Meeting, as part of the national multi-city listening tour, NAACP Forward: Today, Tomorrow & Always, on **Monday, December 4, 2017 at 6:00pm** at Dorothy Height Library located at 3935 Benning Rd, NE Washington, DC 20019. Chairman Leon W. Russell, President Derrick Johnson, DC Branch President Akosua Ali and other NAACP Leaders will listen and engage NAACP members and community members in a conversation about of the organization's strategic plan for the future, enhancing its vision, mission and commitment to the fight for civil rights amidst a swirling climate of political hostility, voter suppression, income inequality, mass incarceration, police brutality and anti-immigrant sentiment. Contact Annemarie Stephens, NAACP DC Branch, Public Relations Chair, 202-817-8207 for additional information.



Restaurant, Retail and Office Planned for Major Anacostia Intersection

By Nena Perry-Brown - Urban Turf, 10/24/17

A sketch of the planned development as seen from the intersection of Good Hope Road and Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue

Just down the street from the first Starbucks location East of the Anacostia River and the blocks-long Reunion Square development, more retail and restaurant space is planned for one of Anacostia's main intersections. The Menkiti Group and Enlightened, Inc. have teamed up in hopes of redeveloping the vacant lot and strip of single-story commercial storefronts from 1201-1215 Good Hope Road SE (map). The proposal would restore the existing buildings while constructing three- and four-story additions in the rear. [Read More.](#)

The Benning Library Offers A-Step Tutoring

Trouble in class? Get free help today! A-Step (After School Tutoring & Enrichment Program) provides educators who are available to tutor students K-12 while addressing a variety of academic needs. Stop by after school and enhance your education. This program is **Free** and open to the public. **Repeats every week every Tuesday and every Thursday until Thursday 12/14/17 except Thursday 11/23/17** at Benning (Dorothy I. Height) Library. Call 202-281-2583 for additional information.



A rendering of The Solstice, new affordable housing coming to East Capitol Street NE.

Nearly 200 Affordable Housing Units Produced and Preserved in Ward 7's Greenway Neighborhood

DHCD recently closed its first two loan agreements for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, totaling more than \$26.5 million, to fund two affordable housing projects in Ward 7: (1) New construction of the Solstice, at 3534 East Capitol Street NE. This will be a 137-unit apartment building, with 122 units for households at or below \$55,150 (50 percent AMI). (2) Acquisition and rehabilitation of three apartment buildings along the 3600 block of Minnesota Avenue SE. This project will provide 45 units for households at or below \$55,150 (50 percent AMI). [Read More.](#)

Norton Announces Senate Passage of Bill to Establish Commission to Honor Bicentennial of Frederick Douglas's Birth

October 19, 2017 Press Release Washington, DC

The office of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) announced that the Senate last night passed her Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission Act (H.R. 2989). [Read More.](#)

Mahogany Books Opens East of the River

Mahogany Books opened on November 24, 2017 meeting the literary needs of readers in search of books written for, by, or about people of the African Diaspora. Previously solely an online bookstore created by husband and wife team, Derrick and Ramunda Young, Mahogany Books is the first book store in historic Anacostia in over two decades, featuring a wide array of books, events, and services geared towards supporting, empowering, and engaging readers and writers. The hours of operation are 11am to 7pm, Tuesday thru Friday, 10am to 7pm on Saturday, and 11am to 3pm on Sunday. The store is located at the Anacostia Arts Center, 1231 Good Hope Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020.

OPC WARNS CONSUMERS ABOUT A NEW SCAM PROMISING TO LOWER YOUR UTILITY BILL

The Office of the People's Counsel (OPC) recently has been alerted to reports of deceptive Third Party Supplier (TPS) marketing phone calls to solicit energy customers. The TPS representative will say "Hi, this is Pepco. We can save you 25 percent on your electric bill..." and asks you to call a different number for full details.

Pepco has assured OPC that none of their employees is calling customers with this claim or asking customers to call the number cited. OPC is working to determine exactly who is making these calls.

If you receive a call like this, ask for the company name or phone number, then end the call and contact OPC immediately at (202) 727-3071. Share the information about your call with an OPC consumer outreach specialist who will follow up with the company that contacted you. [Read More.](#)



Rendering of planned Busboys and Poets in Anacostia

Anacostia's Busboys and Poets Opening Date Likely Pushed Back

By Nena Perry-Brown - Urban Turf, 11/8/17

Six months ago, UrbanTurf reported that the Anacostia Busboys and Poets would likely open at the end of this year or early next. However, that estimate was based on build-out of the restaurant beginning around September — and it has yet to begin.

Landlord and nonprofit partner the Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative is still at work preparing the building at 2004-2010 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE for tenancy, and owner-restaurateur Andy Shallal has informed UrbanTurf that he's still waiting for an update on when he'll be able to begin building out the restaurant. [Read More.](#)