



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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OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

About 1 in 8 U.S. women, and 1 in 1000 U.S. men will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of their lifetime, and being proactive in this fight is crucial. When breast cancer is detected in the earliest stage, the 5-year survival rate is 98%. The best plan of action to ensure early detection is to give yourself regular breast exams, contact your doctor should you discover any abnormalities, stay on top of your annual health exams and have mammograms done as often as recommended by your primary care physician. Raising awareness is also a key to prevention and early detection.

OCTOBER IS ALSO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MONTH

On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. During one year, this equates to more than 10 million women and men. 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have been victims of [some form of] physical violence by an intimate partner within their lifetime.

On a typical day, there are more than 20,000 phone calls placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide. Don't be a silent victim. Contact DC Coalition against Domestic Violence at 202-299-1181 to get help or to get involved.

OCTOBER DC FIRST FRIDAY

MHCDO held its October "DC First Fridays" event on October 6, 2017, this month's topic was "Banking and Financial Solutions to Start a Small Business." The guest keynote speaker was Sheila Edmundson, Procurement Technical Assistance Specialist, DC Department of Small and Local Business Development.

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.](#)

NOVEMBER DC FIRST FRIDAY

The next "DC First Friday" event will take place on November 3, 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 DC Councilmember Ward 7, Vincent C. Gray who will discuss "His Business and Economic Plan for Ward 7." Contact Vivian Mercer at 202-650-5621 to RSVP or for additional information. Plan to attend.

2017 Homeownership Sustainability

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.

DC GOVERNMENT GOES ON AIR

By Kathleen Donner, East of the River, October 6, 2017

On October 06, 2017, Mayor Muriel Bowser (D) launched the DC Government's first radio station, DC Radio 96.3 HD4. This makes Washington, DC one of only two municipalities in the United States with a full-power, city-owned radio station. Managed by the District's Office of Cable Television, Film, Music, and Entertainment in partnership with WHUR Radio, the station features programming on government resources, news, emergency updates, community affairs, education, current events, arts, music and entertainment. It also serves as a platform for local musicians to promote their talents. DC Radio also provide training programs and college internships for District residents. [Read More](#)

SENIOR HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE

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.

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.



Marshall Heights Community Development Organization, Inc.
The Lloyd D. Smith Center
3939 Benning Road NE
Washington, DC 20020
202-396-1200
www.mhcdo.org

DPW Offers DC Drivers Booting and Towing Notification Alert Messaging Service

Drivers can now enroll in a new service offered by the DC Department of Public Works (DPW) to receive electronic notifications if their vehicle has been booted, towed, or relocated in the District. More than 50,000 vehicles are affected by towing and booting services in the District each year. Currently drivers can call the DPW's towed vehicle locator hotline to determine where to retrieve a towed or relocated vehicle. The new Tow and Boot Alert System will notify enrolled drivers if a boot has been installed on, or removed from, their vehicle, or if it has been towed or relocated by DPW or a company working on its behalf. [Read More](#)



Celebrates 50 Years

On October 7, 2017, the Anacostia Community Museum at 1901 Fort Pl. SE celebrated its 50th Year Anniversary. Founded in 1967, the Museum was envisioned as an outreach effort by the Smithsonian to the local African American community. Throughout its 50 year history, the museum has remained relevant, developing documentation projects, exhibitions, and programs which speak to the concerns, issues, and triumphs of communities and which tell the extraordinary stories of everyday people. One of the current exhibits, "Your Community, Your Story: Celebrating Five Decades of the Anacostia Community Museum, 1967-2017" highlights some of the museum's signature projects and demonstrates how ACM's work helps us understand city life and strengthen community bonds. Plan a visit.

DC LIBRARY—FREEGAL—FREE MUSIC

Did you know that you can download up to three (3) songs a week and stream up to twenty-four (24) hours every day from ten thousand labels including Sony Music, with your library card and pin number for free. Access millions of songs, compatible with all MP3 players and computers. [Read More](#)

Wacif to Lead New Commercial Revitalization Initiative to Promote Economic Growth and Small Business Development in Ward 7

On September 29, 2017, at its 30th annual event, Wacif unveiled its designation by the Washington, D.C. Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) as the operator to launch the newest main street east of the Anacostia River. The new main street program is designated for the intersection of the Minnesota Avenue NE and Benning Road commercial corridor in Washington, D.C.'s Ward 7, also known as Downtown Ward 7. The new Downtown Ward 7 Main Street will officially launch in early 2018.

[Read More](#)

D.R.E.A.M. Cottage Food Law Introductory Business Workshops

Have a family recipe for sweet potato pie that gets rave reviews? Interested in starting a food business but don't know where to start? Join Dreaming Out Loud and the Washington Area Community Investment Fund (Wacif) for a workshop titled: D.R.E.A.M.:How to Start and Grow a Food-Based Business Without a Storefront. Come and learn about the DC Cottage Food Law, how to use it, how to start your own business, and get introductory advice on becoming a food entrepreneur. The workshops are being offered on two different dates for those unable to make one or the other. This event is free to attend.

WHEN: October 25, 6:00 - 8:30 pm (Kelly Miller Middle School, 301 49th Street, NE)
OR: November 1, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm (Malcolm X Opportunity Center, 1351 Alabama Avenue SE) RSVP: <https://cottagefooddc.eventbrite.com>

For additional information contact: Christopher Bradshaw / Dreaming Out Loud, Inc. Founder and Executive Director - 301.768.5164 - chris@dreamingoutloud.org - Office: 202.800.2612 - <http://dreamingoutloud.org>

ILLEGAL DUMPING IN DC

Washington, DC, has a no tolerance position toward illegal dumping. Illegal dumping in the District can carry fines up to \$40,000 per violation, imprisonment for up to 5 years, and loss of motor vehicle or business license. If you see illegal dumping, or spot trash or piles of debris that are not in proper containers (or they are set out in an otherwise unsanitary manner), not at a proper point of collection, or on a vacant lot or public property, please call the Mayor's Citywide Call Center at 311 and provide the following information: *The location (street, alley, vacant lot, etc. with an address, if possible) of the dumping. Make, model and license tag number of the vehicle used to carry the item(s) to the site. Time and date when the dumping occurred. What kind of materials were dumped.*

List of Recyclable Items in DC Expands

New requirements go into effect Jan. 1, 2018, but residents can begin recycling new items today. On October 5, 2017, officials from DPW, DOEE, and DGS announced an expanded list of recyclable items in the District. Paper, plastic, metal, cartons and glass are currently recycled in the District with **additional items will include: pizza boxes; paper and plastic plates, cups, lids, and to-go containers; deli/bakery containers, and trays.** [Read More](#)

CAN YOU AFFORD COLLEGE!

Do you think it's impossible to afford college these days? Think it's too late in life to go back to school? Need help with tuition costs? Then this is the workshop for YOU! Join our partners from the Reach4 Success- College Information Center as they provide tips, resources, and a variety of other information to help YOU afford college.

Date: Monday, November 13, 2017 at 6:30 pm
Location: Francis Gregory Neighborhood Library, 2nd Floor Main Meeting Room
3660 Alabama Ave SE Washington, DC 20020

Neighborhood Watch Training

Wondering how you can be a part of keeping yourself and your neighbors safe? Gather 10 or more people to have a Neighborhood Watch Training for your community group. [Read More](#)

Learn how to prevent opportunities of crime! Contact: Dayne Dixon, MPD 6th District Community Outreach Coordinator at: (202) 6 98-1315 or email: Dayne.dixon@dc.gov to schedule your 6th District Neighborhood Watch Training.

DC Added \$8 Million to the Pockets of Low-Income Workers Thanks to Tax Credit Expansion

By Claire Zippel, East of the River, October 7, 2017

...The DC Council expanded the DC Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), a tax benefit for low-income working families and individuals, in 2014. Now the numbers are in, showing that an extra 10,300 working families and individuals claimed the EITC in 2015. EITC expansion was an important step to make sure that DC's growing prosperity is more widely shared.

What Is the Credit and How Does It Work? The DC and federal EITCs make a big difference in the finances of working households who struggle to survive on low wages. For example, a single parent with two children working full-time for \$15 an hour (annual income \$32,000) gets a \$1,650 tax refund thanks to the DC and federal EITCs. Without those credits, they would owe \$2,070 in DC and federal income taxes.

... more work needs to be done to ensure that all eligible residents know about and claim the EITC and other tax credits they've earned. **According to Capital Area Asset Builders (CAAB), as many as 20,000 DC residents who have low wages are still not claiming the federal EITC, and thus are not receiving over \$40 million in federal tax credits. This suggests that with increased awareness and free tax preparation, even more workers would benefit from the DC EITC expansion.** [Read More](#)

Bowser Administration Announces Release of Site Study for New Acute Care Hospital

On September 5, 2017, the Bowser Administration announced the release of a site study for the construction of a new hospital east of the Anacostia River. The site study recommends that the District construct the new acute care hospital on the East campus of St. Elizabeths. [Read More](#)

Mayor Bowser Invests \$3 Million to Bring New Grocery Options to Wards 7 and 8

Popville by Prince Of Petworth October 17, 2017

Today, Mayor Bowser announced the awardees for the Neighborhood Prosperity Fund, a pilot program that provides financial support for non-residential components of mixed-use projects in underserved neighborhoods in Washington, DC. Through the Neighborhood Prosperity Fund, LDP Holdings LLC was awarded \$2.1 million for its Penn Hill project located at 3200 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE. ...The grants provide necessary gap funding for the commercial component of development projects and will help create job opportunities and new food options in Wards 7 and 8.

[Read More](#)

A Place You've Likely Never Heard of and Should Get to Know Our River: The Anacostia

By Bill Matuszeski – East of the River, October 10, 2017

It's called AREC and pronounced "A-REC." That stands for Aquatic Resources Education Center. Operated by the Department of Energy & Environment (DOEE) in cooperation with the National Park Service and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, it is a center for the study of the District's rivers and streams. It is located along our Anacostia, 1900 Anacostia Drive SE, Washington, DC 20020. Inside Anacostia Park, Section E (next to Skating Pavilion). Phone: (202) 535-2276. Website: <https://doee.dc.gov/arec>

Among other things, the center is our own aquarium on the Anacostia, with over 40 species of local fish, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, and aquatic plants displayed in attractive and well-lit tanks. A children's Discovery Room offers hands-on learning.

Much of the public education program focus is on school groups from pre-K through 12 who visit during the week and learn about a wide range of habitat and animal issues associated with the Anacostia and Potomac rivers and Rock Creek, as well as their tributaries. Visitors learn that DC waters are home to more than 70 fish species, dozens of which spawn here. Parents with children two to five years old can attend a "Fish Tales Story Hour" on the first Thursday of every month from 10 to 11 a.m. Upcoming sessions include "Marvelous Mammals" on November 2, and "The Power of Plants" on December 7. [Read More](#)

D.C. Public Relations Society Celebrates Legacy of Ofield Dukes

Published by the Washington Informer 10/16/17

The Black Public Relations Society — Washington, D.C. (BPRS) will host the inaugural Ofield Dukes Excellence in Public Relations Awards on Saturday, 10/21 at the J.W. Marriott Hotel. The event, which celebrates the Detroit native's life and legacy of Dukes, will be hosted by veteran journalist Maureen Bunyan. Dukes, who died at age 79 in 2011, was widely recognized for his dedication and avid support surrounding the advancement of equality in the public relations and communications arena. ...Dukes' myriad accomplishments include his influence using the public relations platform to galvanize support for the civil rights movement as well as the spearheading of a campaign to commemorate a day for civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

[Read More](#)

An old power plant in DC's Ward 7 is ripe for redevelopment. Let's not make it a trash and recycling plant

Published by Greater Greater Washington
(Contributor) Justin Lini September 15, 2016

Between the Anacostia River and I-295, a defunct power plant stretches along the north side of Benning Road. A plan for how to put the space to use just came out, and while some of the ideas could bring jobs to the community, others threaten to perpetuate a history of communities east of the Anacostia getting the short end of the stick. ...Given the considerable investment going into the community, the Pepco site is looking increasingly anachronistic in its current state, but its proximity to Metro, the streetcar, and I-295 give it incredible potential. With the right changes, it could provide much-needed economic opportunities to Ward 7 residents and become the economic and social center that Ward 7 has long lacked. [Read More](#)

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING A DAY WITHOUT CANDY!!!!

- ◆ Free Prediabetes Screening
- ◆ Blood Pressure Check
- ◆ Tips on including more fruits and vegetables in meals and snacks
- ◆ Fun and easy ways to include more exercise in your day.
- ◆ Door prizes, raffles, music, fun, and much more!

When: October 26, 2017—Time: 10am to 7pm
Location: FlexCare Pharmacy
3857 Alabama Ave SE, Washington, DC 20020
Phone: (202) 575-0578

Play Day DC is Free this Saturday!

Everyone Needs to Play! According to the DC Department of Health, more than half of adults living in DC are overweight or obese. These rates rise to over 78% in Wards 7 and 8. Play Day aims to impact all DC Residents while hosting the event in a community most impacted health disparities.

Date and Time - Sat, October 21, 2017
11:00am – 3:00pm
Location: Oxon Run Park
Washington, DC 20032