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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, and 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 202-299-1111 to get help or to get involved.

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 Goes On Air. The guest keynote speaker was Sheila Edmundson, Procurement Business Development, Technical Assistance Specialist, DC Department of Small and Local Business Development.

DC Government Goes On Air

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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 DC 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. Contact 5621-202 to RSVP or for additional information. Plan to attend.

Senior Homeowner Assistance
MHCDO provides information and assistance on how to qualify for up to $75,000 for: Home Repairs, Roof Repair, Mail 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 making your electricity payment? 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.

Join our Mail List!

Don’t miss important events and information.

Click here to join.

October's 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, fire safety and lead based paint inspections, and more. Click here for more information.

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.

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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) designates 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 to 1:00 pm. Call 202-396-1200 for more information.
DC LIBRARY—FREEGAL—FREE MUSIC

Did you know that you can download up to three (3) songs a week and stream up to twenty-three (23) songs a week for free from the thousands of 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

ANACOSTIA COMMUNITY MUSEUM

Celebrates 50 Years

On October 7, 2017, the Anacostia Community Museum at 1901 Fort PI 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 history, culture, 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.

DCP Offers DC Drivers Booting and Tow- ing Notification Alert Messaging Service

Drivers can now enroll in a new service offered by the DC Department of Public Works (DPW) to receive electronic notification 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

ACCESS MILLIONS OF SONGS, COMPATIBLE WITH ALL

Your library card and pin number for free. Read More

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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.: How to Start and Grow a Food Business Without a Storefront

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 “A Food Business: How to Start and Grow One.” 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)

OFF: 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

DC Expands List of Recyclable Items

New requirements go into effect Jan. 1, 2018, but residents can begin recycling new items today. On October 5, 2017, officials from DPW, DOE, 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

Neighborhood Watch Training

Wondering how you can be a part of Keeping your neighborhood 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: Daynne Dixon, MPD 6th District Community Coordinator and Reach Coordinator at: (202) 6 98-1315 or email: Daynne.dixon@dc.gov to schedule your 6th District Neighborhood Watch Training.
The Black Public Relations Society — Washington, D.C. (BPRS) will host the inaugural Oldolf Dukes Excellence in Public Relations Awards on Saturday, October 29, at the JW 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 contributions to the advancement of equality in the public relations and communications arena. Dukes’ accomplishments include his influence using the myriad of tools at his disposal to advance the civil rights movement as well as the spearheading of a campaign to commemorate and acknowledge the life and contributions to civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

Mayor Bowser Invests $3 Million to Bring New Grocery Options to Wards 7 and 8
Published by the Washington Informer

Today, Mayor Bowser announced the awardees for the Neighborhood Prosperity Fund, LDP Holdings LLC was awarded $2.1 million for its Pennington project located at 3200 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE. The grant provides 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.

A Place You’ve Likely Never Heard of and Should Get to Know
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://dcee.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.

D.C. Public Relations Society Celebrates Legacy of Oldolf Dukes
Published by the Washington Informer

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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 that 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 history of communities east of the Anacostia, 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.

Play Day DC is Free this Saturday!
Everyone needs a break, right? 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