

Concerned Communiqúé

The Newsletter of the North Takoma Community Vol.1 No.1 Summer 2007



A Message From the President

Hello, dear neighbors. Welcome to the first issue of Concerned Communiqúé. When contemplating what I was going to say in this premier issue, so many things crossed my mind. There's the designation of our neighborhood as "Emerging" by the Mayor's Comprehensive Plan that merits attention. I've been living in the area for over 30 years and I would never classify our community as such. Stable first comes to mind in my thinking. There is much we have to do to ensure our neighborhood's stability. We have to be vigilant against unwanted elements and activities in our community. Nuisance properties must be identified and dealt with in a no-nonsense manner. Keeping the neighborhood clean and litter-free is another top priority. We have to entice new neighbors to join our group to reflect the changing demographics of the area. I propose that we initiate a membership drive to reach out to new residents. We also have to convince former members to rejoin the fold, so to speak. Concerned Neighbor's is not an isolated group only concerned with a narrow set of issues affecting just our immediate neighborhood. In this new urban environment our neighboring communities problems are our own problems, or soon will be. I want CNI to be more proactive and interactive with our sister associations in Shepherd Park, Takoma Park, and Brightwood, to name just a few. A unified, united voice can and will work to maintain the quality of life we all can be proud of.

Shirley Richardson,
President
Concern Neighbors

Premiere Issue

Welcome to the first issue of **Concerned Communiqúé**, the Newsletter of North Takoma. This newsletter will be published quarterly by **Concerned Neighbors, Inc.**, the community association serving the neighborhood bounded by Eastern Ave NW (north), Fern Street, NW (south) Georgia Ave, NW (west) and Blair Rd, NW (east). Everything from who and where to call for constituent services, questions about the local public schools and libraries to a calendar of events, meetings and forums. There will be a crime report listing from 4th District, covering actions in Takoma and Shepherd Park as well as phone listings of critical 4D personnel and many other articles and departments we hope the reader will find interesting and informative. Members of the community are welcome and encouraged to submit articles for publication. Comments and suggestions to improve this periodical are not only appreciated, they are critical if the publication is to grow and evolve. We sincerely hope the reader finds this newsletter "a good read".

—The Newsletter Staff

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CNI News

Mayor Fenty Visits Concerned Neighbors

Newly Elected Mayor **Adrian Fenty** visited Concerned Neighbor’s at our January Meeting. The former Ward 4 Councilman came “home” to talk to his core constituents, and participated in a lively Question & Answer session. CNI wishes him all the best in his new capacity as Mayor.



Mayor Fenty shares a moment with longtime CNI member and former Association President Ms. Icie Goodwin.



Mayor Fenty answers questions from the audience while President Shirley Richardson looks on.



President Shirley Richardson and Mayor Fenty pose for the camera.

President Richardson Honored

At the same meeting a representative of At-Large City Councilman **Kwame Brown** presented **President Richardson** with flowers commemorating her birthday. After listening to the presentation of several speakers and the visit by the Mayor, the meeting adjourned. Birthday cake was then passed around to everyone, courtesy of longtime member **Mrs. Crisp**.



President Shirley Richardson receives birthday flowers courtesy of At-Large City Councilman Kwame Brown.

MPD Chief of Police Answers Questions at CNI Meeting

During the February meeting of CNI, our members and members of the general public were honored by the visit of the Chief-of-Police-Elect **Cathy Lanier**. Chief Lanier was the onetime extremely popular Commander of the Metropolitan Police 4th District, of which CNI and North Takoma are a part. The meeting was a homecoming of sorts for Chief Elect Lanier. Many of the members of the audience have been following her career in MPD since she was first assigned to 4D as a patrol officer, During

the meeting, Chief-Elect graciously spent time explaining her “100 day plan” and her proactive policing philosophy. She then spent time answering questions from the audience. Concerned Neighbors, Inc. invites community leaders, members of the District government and department representatives to meeting to interact and hear the issues and concerns of our community. **Concerned Neighbors, Inc.** holds meetings **every third Wednesday** of the month, with the exception of July and August, at the **Juanita Thornton, Shepherd Park Library, 7420 Georgia Ave. NW. from 7:00-8:45 PM.** All are welcome.

Around the Neighborhood



Does this make sense? Construction workers elected to leave the parking signs where they were before the sidewalks were installed, impeding pedestrian traffic.

FINALLY! The long promised sidewalk construction along Geranium Street between Blair Road and Georgia Avenue has been completed! The pedestrian traffic along the street can walk a bit more comfortably. A minor crisis was created when the traffic regulation signs were left in the middle of the sidewalk! (see left photo) Joan Hoyt of Shepherd Park brought the issue to light in a Shepherd Park listserv posting. Her complaint spurred CNI and Vera Carley to contact Muhammed Kahlid, of the District



The signs have now been moved, resulting in unobstructed pedestrian traffic from Blair Road to Georgia Avenue.

Department of Transportation, and demand that the signs be repositioned. Many thanks to **Joan Hoyt, Vera Carley, Doug Payton**, Ward 4 Neighborhood Coordinator **Ayana Rockette**, ANC 4B01 representative **Sara Green**, and newly elected Ward 4 Councilmember **Muriel Bowser** for making this happen for the community! This is just a small example of what a concerted effort by members on both sides of Georgia Avenue can achieve.

Neighborhood Walkthrough

On January 6th, 2007 Our Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner (ANC) 4B01 **Ms. Sara Green** sponsored a walkthrough for her single member district, which includes our North Takoma neighborhood. Many neighbors came out to help identify areas that warranted attention. The focus was to keep our neighborhood an attractive and desirable place to live. When a violation was found, **Ms. Ayana Rockette**, Ward 4 Neighborhood Coordinator, took note to make sure the violation was sent to the proper DC agency.

-Vera M. Carley



B & B Begone!



Construction of the Takoma Pavilions Complex in the 7000 block of Blair Road has begun. The picture, shown on the right, was taken on June 7, 2007.

Around the Neighborhood (continued)

Summer Cleaning

This is the time to trim and prune the trees, plant the flowers to prepare for the Summer dance of color. It's curb appeal time. Nothing makes a house or neighborhood look more beautiful than well cared for lawns. Don't forget the back yard! There's nothing like that favorite spot out back with lawn tables and chairs, or just a comfortable seating arrangement where you can sip the morning's coffee, or evening tea and read the newspaper or good book. Okay, so you're not into the "yard thing". Here's a couple of quick tips to help beautify your home with little expense or effort. First, start off with small projects. Shaping the bushes and mulching around them will make the yard "pop". Buy a nice, large pot of flowers, you can buy them already arranged, for your front porch or stoop. Two of these pots on either side of your walkway makes an elegant statement. Place a hanging basket to decorate your carport or garage. With a minimum amount of effort, you can look back at your house with pride.

– CNI Neighborhood Beautification Committee



Rally-in-the-Alley!!!

Our annual alley clean up is fast approaching. In the Rally-in-the-Alley event, neighbors get together to clean and inspect the alleys along 7th, 8th and 9th Streets, NW, between Juniper and Geranium Streets. .

First, I would like to thank all of you who have come out each year to participate. I also would like to give a special thanks to Mrs. Willie Hackett, for allowing us to use her yard as a gathering place each year, and for receiving the yard equipment loaned to us by the District Department of Public Works. Another special thanks goes out to Mr. William Page, for acting as liaison, coordinating communication between CNI and DPW. We could not have a successful event without the efforts of these two.

The Concerned Neighbors Beautification Committee will be planning the fourth annual Rally-in-the-Alley for late summer, early fall. A flyer will be distributed to the neighborhood announcing the date and time. If you haven't joined us before, please make plans to do so this year. The Rally-in-the-Alley is a great way for neighbors to get to know each other and bond together to make a stronger community.

–CNI Neighborhood Beautification Committee

Welcome!

Congratulations to our new/old neighbors, the proud owners of the Eastern Juniper Cooperative Apartments, located on Eastern Ave. and Juniper St., NW. The building is the former Blair Group Apts.

Welcome New Neighbors!

We welcome all our new neighbors who've moved into North Takoma over the past few years. We look forward to your participation in the many neighborhood associations in the area, especially Concerned Neighbors, Inc. A list and meeting schedule of all community related events is in this newsletter.

We, at CNI would like to welcome **PNC Bank**, located at the corner of Geranium and Hemlock Streets, NW, to the neighborhood, and commend them for

keeping the area free of trash, which before usually found its way into the community. The appearance of Hemlock Street, trash and litter-wise, has greatly improved. Keep up the great work, PNC Bank, and thanks for being such a good neighbor!



Helpful News You Can USE

Know Your House Style

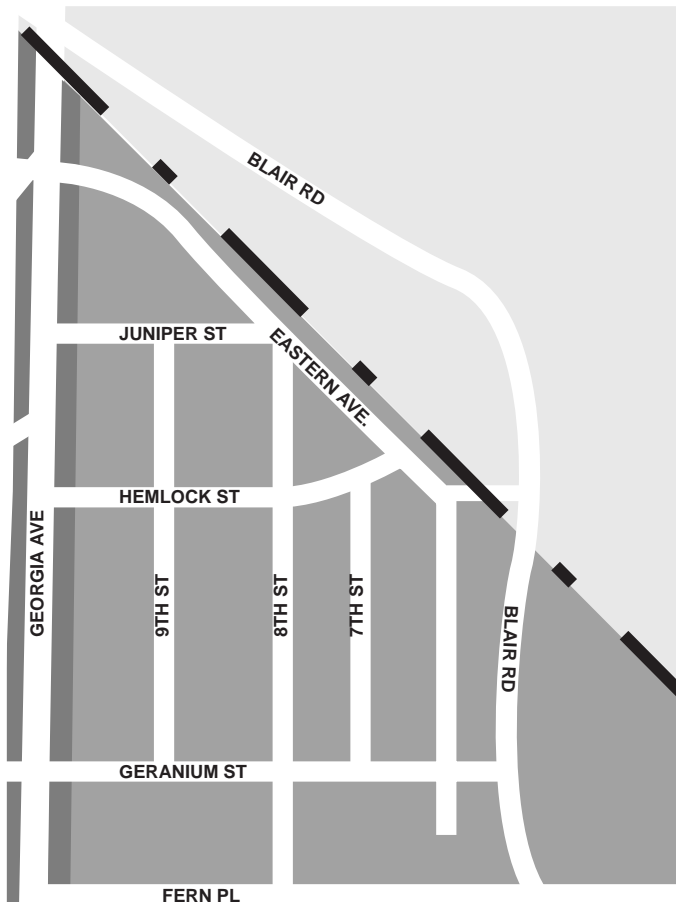


Know your house style, Colonial, Bungalow, Ranch, etc. so if and when improvements are made, they will compliment the original style. and add value to your home.

TIP: inexpensive ways to dress up your home:

Update your light fixtures inside and out. New house numbers, adding potted plants and installing a beautiful full-view storm door if your budget allows, will work wonders!

Map of Concerned Neighbors, Inc. Boundaries



PSA 401 Crime Statistics MPD Criminal Intelligence and Tactical Crime Unit:

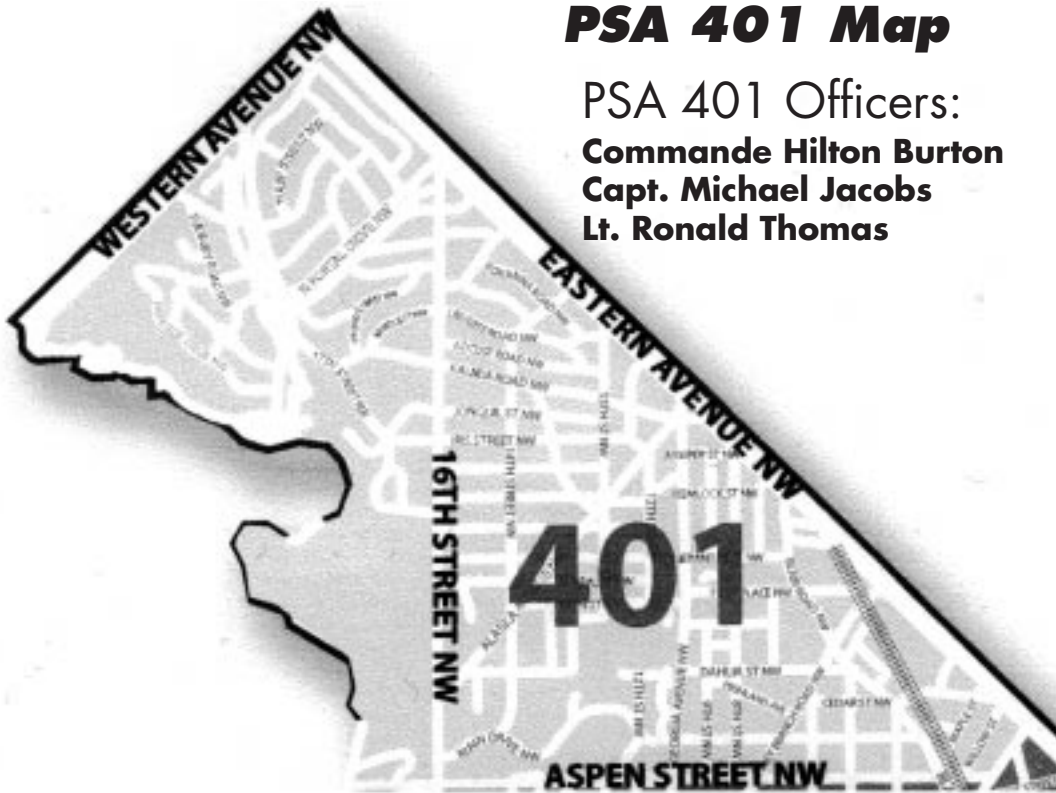
May 1, 2007 through May 31, 2007

Offense	Total
ADW	5
Assault	1
Burglary	1
Robbery	3
Stolen Auto	7
Theft	5
Theft / F Auto	4
Grand Total	26

- Butternut St. & Georgia Ave. **Stolen Auto** 5/1
- 100 B/O Carroll St, NW **Theft** Convenience Store 5/2
- 1700 B/O Juniper St, NW **Theft** Residence/Home 5/2
- 800 B/O Fern PL NW **Theft** Street/Hghwy/Rd 5/2
- 7200 B/O Georgia Ave. NW **ADW** Sidewalk 5/3
- 7300 B/O Georgia Ave. NW **ADW** Liquor Store 5/4
- 7000 B/O Spring PL NW **Theft** F/Auto Alley 5/5
- 7400 B/O 9th St NW **Theft** Street/Hghwy/Rd 5/9
- 6800 B/O 5th St NW **Robbery** Sidewalk 5/11
- 1700 B/O Redwood Terr NW **Robbery** Residence 5/17
- 400 B/O Cedar St. NW **ADW** Residence/Home 5/17
- 7400 B/O Georgia Ave **Stolen Auto** 5/17
- 6800 B/O 4th St NW **Theft** F/Auto 5/17
- 7300 B/O Blair Rd. NW **Assault** Residence 5/18
- 1400 B/O Kalmia Rd, NW **Stolen Auto** 5/18
- 7200 B/O Blair Rd, NW **Theft** Home 5/18
- 4th & Butternut Sts NW **Stolen Auto** 5/19
- 7000 B/O 5th St NW **Theft** F/Auto 5/20
- 7100 B/O Alaska Ave NW **Theft** F/Auto 5/21
- 700 B/O Fern PL NW **Burglary** 5/23
- 7600 B/O Georgia Ave **Robbery** 5/25
- Aspen St & Georgia Ave NW **ADW** Sidewalk 5/26
- 7600 B/O Georgia Ave NW **Stolen Auto** 5/27
- 800 B/O Butternut St NW **ADW** Alley 5/28
- Aspen St & Willow St , NW **Stolen Auto** 5/30
- 7200 B/O 15th PL NW **Stolen Auto** 5/31

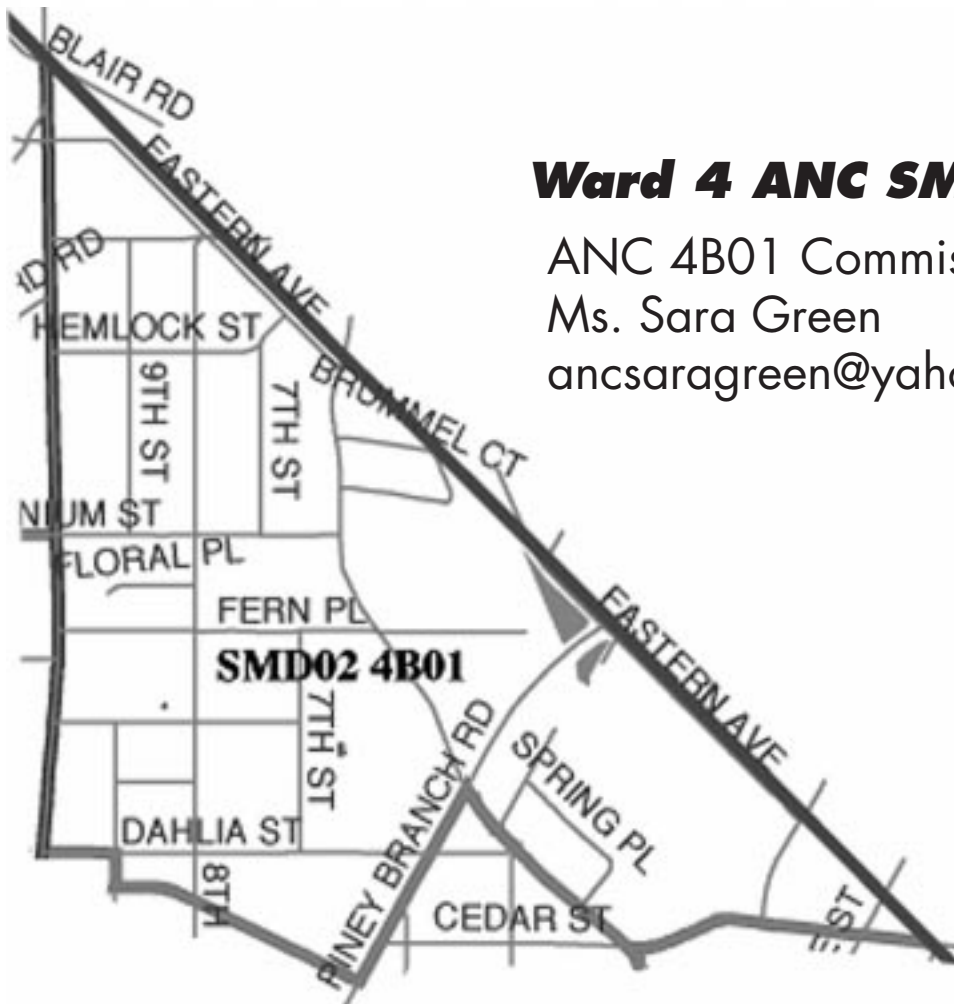
PSA 401 Map

PSA 401 Officers:
Commande Hilton Burton
Capt. Michael Jacobs
Lt. Ronald Thomas



Ward 4 ANC SMD MAP

ANC 4B01 Commissioner:
Ms. Sara Green
ancsaragreen@yahoo.com



EVENTS CALENDAR

7-14-07

PSA 401 Community Meeting
The second Saturday of every month
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
 Shepherd Park Library
 7420 Georgia Avenue, NW
 Washington, DC 20012

7-21-07

Citizens Advisory Council Meeting
Meets third Thursday of the month,
7 pm
 Fourth District Station
 6001 Georgia Ave, NW
 Washington, DC 20009

8-8-07

National Night Out
4:00 PM-9:00PM
 Takoma School
 7010 Piney Branch Rd., NW
 Washington, DC

8-11-07

Concerned Neighbors, Inc.
Block Party
 Time/Place TBD
 Rain Date: 8-12-07

Concerned Communiqué

Volume 1, Number 1

is a quarterly publication of
 Concerned Neighbors, Inc. (CNI)
 A North Takoma Community
 Association

Shirley Richardson, President
Andre Carley, Vice President/
 Secretary
Lester Richardson, Treasurer

Community solicitations welcome.
 Please send articles or suggestions
 to

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Important Contact Information:

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 (202) 727-1000

Emergency: Police /Fire/EMS
 911

Non-Emergency: Police/Fire/EMS
 311

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