

BY PETER MORGAN — REUTERS

## Brookland Bounces Back

Just a short walk from Metro and Catholic University, in a storefront near a shoe repair store, barbershop and laundromat, Brookland residents can now find hand-blown glass pitchers (\$22), comfy chairs (starting at \$91) and cool vintage dish towels (\$7.50).

Dwellings, a gifts and home furnishings store that opened in April, is a bright spot sharing a stretch of sidewalk with businesses that appear closed or rundown. Yet owner and D.C. native Roz Moore thinks the block is a perfect location for her shop. "The Brookland neighborhood is a diamond in the rough," she says. "So many people live here and [there's] so little retail." Her store stocks items for house and dorm, children and pets, as well as personal care products and gourmet foods.

Moore found help for her venture at DC Main Streets, a District program working to revitalize the city's commercial corridors. Moore said she and the other new merchants hope to establish 12th Street as a shopping district that will bring the community together. A furniture store, organic supermarket and coffee shop are on the way.

"There's a tremendous amount of rehab going on" on 12th Street, says Mary Farrell, acting director of the Brookland Community Development Corporation. "It's now emerging as a strong destination."

Dwellings, 3509 12th St. NE; [www.dwellingsontheweb.com](http://www.dwellingsontheweb.com); 202-269-1483.

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BY PRESTON KERES — THE WASHINGTON POST

Dwellings owner Roz Moore greets Marshan Jefferson, in mirror, to her Brooklands store.