



WARD 4
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

FOCUS ON



January 22, 2009

IN THIS ISSUE ...

Celebrating Martin Luther King and Inauguration!

Register Now for DPR Summer Camps

Free Basketball Coaching Certification Workshop- Today January 22

Brightwood Neighborhood Clean-Up- 1-24

Digital TV Coming Soon, Answers to Questions, January 27

Muriel Bowser

Councilmember, Ward 4

Council of the District of Columbia

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 110

Washington DC 20004

202-724-8052-voice

202-741-0908

mbowser@dccouncil.us

Dear Neighbors,

President Barack Obama loves Ward 4 (and all of the District of Columbia, of course). In the days before his inauguration, President-Elect Barack Obama made several significant visits to Ward 4.

I had the pleasure of being among many Ward 4 residents and friends at 19th Street Baptist Church when the then President Elect attended with his wife, children and many family members. Pastor Harkins delivered an inspired-sermon, the children's choir sang beautifully, and many neighbors lined 16th Street to greet the Obamas as they entered and left the Church. The very next day, on Martin Luther King Day, the President-Elect visited soldiers at Walter Reed and spent the MLK Day of Service with students at Coolidge Senior High School. In Tuesday's Washington Post, there is an awesome photo of Coolidge students with the President!

My thanks also to the Ward 4 Cares Committee and the over 20 neighbors who joined us for our Annual Day of Service event at Raymond Recreation Center. We collected over 20 bags of litter and leaves, one volunteer even went on pooper scooper duty. Though very cold, residents from across the Ward and even some visitors in town for the Inauguration, enjoyed getting to know each other while making a big difference in this neighborhood park and recreation center.

I could not be prouder of how our City hosted this unprecedented event. There was tremendous excitement, full hotels and restaurants, and bustling streets. One Ward 4 restaurant owner remarked to me that this was their best weekend ever. Many kudos to Mayor Fenty, Chief Lanier and the entire Homeland Security and Public Safety team that worked with our federal partners to ensure a safe event for the new president and the million+ participants. I am also very pleased to report that there were no major safety events in our neighborhoods either. And, each time I called on the Fourth District for assistance in our neighborhoods they were immediately responsive.

I was honored to represent you at this historic presidential inauguration and surrounding activities.

Muriel

Register Now for DPR Summer Camps

Summer time is approaching and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is having an early registration period for its 2009 summer camp programs. Early registration began January 21-31, District residents can register for any one of the following summer camp sessions: Aqua Day Camp, Camp Discovery, Little Explorers, Sports Camps and Therapeutic Recreation Camps by visiting one of DPR's centers during regular hours of operation especially those in Ward 4 including: Takoma Aquatic Center, Emery Recreation Center, Lamond Recreation Center, Riggs LaSalle Recreation Center, and Takoma Community Center.

This is a great opportunity for youngsters & teens ages 3-17 to enjoy the summer, engage in recreation and fitness and enjoy new adventures with friends. Early registration must be done in person at the center and proof of District residency is required. All camping fees must be paid at the time of registration: acceptable forms of payment are Visa, MasterCard, and Discover, or money orders made payable to DC Treasurer. Checks or cash will not be accepted.

For a list of summer camp sites, fees, and summer camp scholarship information contact the DPR Camp Central office at (202) 671-0295, by e-mail at DPRcamps@dc.gov, or visit summercamps@dc.gov.

Free Basketball Coaching Certification Workshop- Today January 22

The DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the Positive Coaches Alliance will hold a free Coaching Certification workshop for youth basketball coaches today January 22, 2009, from 7 to 9 pm at the Emery Recreation Center, 5801 Georgia Avenue, NW.

If you are a youth basketball coach or are interested in becoming one please join DPR for this free certification workshop. This workshop is open to all youth basketball coaches' male and female; however, it is mandatory for all coaches in DPR's youth basketball league. So come out to this important workshop so that that you can begin or continue making a difference in the lives of our youth.

For more information or to register, contact Michael Williams or Kevin Clark with the DPR Athletic Programs Administration, (202) 671-1700.

Brightwood Neighborhood Clean-up- 1-24

Join the Beacon Clean Team, The Emory Beacon of Light, Inc., The Beacon Brightwood Business Alliance and The Emory United Methodist Church for a neighborhood clean-up. Come out meet new neighbors and friends, enjoy light refreshments bring your energy and excitement, rakes, brooms, and shovels to participate in a neighborhood clean-up that is sure to be a blast. So join the Beacon Clean Team and others this Saturday to continue keeping Ward 4 beautiful.

Saturday, January 24th, 9:30 am- 1:30 pm, 6100 Georgia Ave NW (Emory United Methodist Church), rain date, Saturday, January 31st. For more information or to RSVP contact Marsha Brown at 202-829-5732.

Digital TV Coming Soon, Answers to Questions, January 27

We have noticed a lot of questions about the upcoming digital TV conversion on community lists. Councilmember Bowser is pleased to host with the Office of the People's Counsel a workshop where all the right people will be in attendance to answer your questions including: Verizon, Comcast, DC Office of Cable Television and RCN. Learn what to expect once television is converted from analog to digital February 17, 2009.

This will also mark, the first of many joint efforts with the Office of the People's Counsel (OPC), which is now part of Councilmember Bowser's oversight responsibility as Chairman of the Committee on Public Services and Consumer Affairs. Please join us for this Consumer Workshop and share this information with your neighbors, especially seniors.

This special consumer workshop will be held, Tuesday, January 27, 2009 from 6:30-8:30 pm at Shepherd Park Elementary School Auditorium, 7800 14th Street NW. For more information about the consumer workshop, please contact the OPC at 202-727-3071.