



WARD 4
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

FOCUS ON



October 29, 2008

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Two important dates for all of us this week –

October 31st and November 4th

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Dear Neighbors:

Halloween is a special night for children but the excitement of the night can cause children to forget to be careful. There is no real “trick” to making Halloween a real “treat” for the entire family. The major dangers are not from witches or spirits but rather from falls and pedestrian safety concerns.

Both children and adults should think about safety on this annual day of make-believe, wear clothing that is bright, reflective and flame-retardant; wear short clothing that prevents tripping. Children should stay within familiar surroundings, cross the street at corners/crosswalks and not between parked cars.

Most Ward 4 Department of Parks and Recreation facilities, will host Halloween events: Riggs LaSalle Community Center, Takoma Recreation Center, Upshur Recreation Center, Emery Recreation Center, and Lamond Recreation Center. Contact a recreation center near you. For additional information call DPR at 202-673-7647. For additional safety tips visit the Metropolitan Police Department’s website www.mpdc.dc.gov

Don’t forget to vote. If you are not able to vote at your polling place, you may vote absentee in person until November 3rd at the Board of Elections and Ethics, 441 4th St NW Suite 250 North, 8:30am-4:45pm, Monday-Saturday. We are expecting a record turn-out this year, so please don’t be discouraged by long lines – this just means our democracy is working at its best.

For additional information on absentee voting or any other election-related matters, visit the Board’s website at www.dcboee.org or call 202-727-2525 (TDD 202-639-8916).

On October 28th the committee on Public Works and the Environment held a public hearing on Bill 17-907, the “Ward 4 ANC 4C07 Class B Full Service Grocery Store Amendment Act Of 2008” and Bill 17-941, the “Targeted Ward 4 Single Sales Moratorium Act of 2008”. Bill 17-907 would exempt a new, full service grocery store or substantially renovated full-service grocery store in ANC 4C07 from the current moratorium on applying for Class B alcoholic beverage licenses. Bill 17-941 would prohibit the sales of single containers of beer, malt liquor, or ale, by off-premises retailers located in a targeted area of Ward 4.

Upcoming DC Council hearings:

Thursday, October 30

10:00 AM, COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 500, PUBLIC HEARING, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, Vincent C. Gray, Chairman, agenda item: “The District of Columbia Public Schools Local School Budgets and the DCPS Planning and Budgeting Process”.

Friday, October 31

10:00 AM, COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 500, PUBLIC HEARING, COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND THE ENVIRONMENT, Jim Graham, Chairperson, agenda item: "Sidewalk Assurance Act of 2007", Bill 17-0044: To require the installation of sidewalks to ensure a safe and accessible environment for pedestrians and persons with disabilities.

Thursday, November 6

10:00 AM, COUNCIL CHAMBER ROOM, 500, PUBLIC HEARING, COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, David A. Catania, Chairperson, agenda items: B17-186: Dialysis Patient Care Amendment Act of 2007, B17-323 Emergency Contraception and Information for Sexual Assault Victims Establishment Act of 2007, B17-661 The Drug Abuse Screening and Treatment Act of 2008, B17-709 Health-Care Nonlicensed Personnel Criminal Background Check Amendment Act of 2008: Seeks to amend the Health-Care and Community Residence Facility Hospice and Home Care Licensure Act of 1983 to require that nonlicensed health care personnel who provide services to District residents and work for a facility that is not licensed by the District to register with the District; and to amend the Health-Care-Facility Unlicensed Personnel Criminal Background Check Amendment Act of 1998 to clarify that nonlicensed health care workers working outside of a health care facility in the District must undergo criminal background checks.

Please visit the new DC Council website for more details at: www.dccouncil.us.

Muriel

DPR repairs and resurfaces gym floor at Lamond Recreation Center

The DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) temporarily closed the gymnasium at the Lamond Recreation Center, 20 Tuckerman Street, NE, to accommodate repair and resurfacing of the gymnasium floor.

Only the gymnasium is closed while the work is being performed, all other areas of the center remain open. Work began Monday, October 27, 2008, and will be completed on Wednesday, November 5. For additional information contact the Department of Parks and recreation at 202-673-7647.

13th Annual Energy Efficiency Expo- November 1

Combat high utility bills! Don't miss the D.C Office of the People's Counsel 13th annual Energy Efficiency Expo, Saturday, November 1, 2008, 10:00am-2:00pm, Washington Convention Center, 801 Mt. Vernon Place NW. Enjoy workshops and demonstrations from exhibitors such as Home Depot, The Council of Governments, Energy Service providers, "Green Loan" providers, the U.S. Department of Energy & local alternative energy companies, all geared to help you lower your bills by making your home green and energy efficient. Get consumer tips on high efficiency appliances, solar panels, lighting and much more, for additional information or to RSVP contact 202-727-3071.

District Department of the Environment offers \$50 for District residents to plant trees on their property

The District Department of the Environment (DDOE) and Casey Trees are offering \$50 rebates to District residents who plant trees on their property. The program also includes a free "Ooze Tube" watering bag to help care for the tree. The \$50 rebate covers all tree species, except for some that are considered invasive or susceptible to pests. Participants must pledge to water and care for the tree for at least two years. Rebates are available until May 31, 2009. Casey Trees will offer guidance on how and where to plant trees to maximize their environmental benefits.

For additional information about the program contact Casey trees at 202.833.4010 or friends@caseytrees.org and to download a rebate coupon, please visit: <http://www.caseytrees.org/programs/Rebate2008-2009.html>