



WARD 4
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER



FOCUS ON

December 10, 2008

IN THIS ISSUE ...

Foster Grandparent Program

Around the Ward

Legislative corner

Annual Ward 4 Holiday Party- Saturday, December 13

Internship opportunity at the Council

DC Landlord training session- December 15

Metro to discontinue paper transfers- January 4

Muriel Bowser

Councilmember, Ward 4

Council of the District of Columbia

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 406

Washington DC 20004

202-724-8052-voice

202-741-0908

mbowser@dccouncil.us

Foster Grandparent Program

Friday, December 5 I had the great pleasure to attend the United Planning Organization (UPO) Foster Grandparent Program, recognition luncheon, which was held at the beautiful Capitol Skyline Hotel in Southwest Washington DC. I was happy to acknowledge over 150 senior volunteers from across the District of Columbia that participate in this program and serve our youth everyday as a foster grandparent. The Foster Grandparent Program has served more than 1,000 children in DC public schools, DC charter schools, hospitals and various social settings. As you are aware, Ward 4 has the highest population of senior residents in the District of Columbia with 17,000 seniors. Our senior residents were well represented at this worthwhile recognition program.

The work of UPO and its volunteers are changing the lives of the District's youth. We have all had grandparents and certainly realize the importance of the wisdom and compassion they provide to our youth, which is why programs such as this are vital in our communities. If you would like additional information about the United Planning Organization you may call 202-238-4600 or visit their website www.upo.org.

Around the Ward

On Friday, December 5, at Engine 24, 5101 Georgia Ave NW, I viewed the District's new emergency preparedness vehicles during a press conference where the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) announced the release of their Annual Report and the city's revised District Response Plan. Mayor Adrian Fenty, Fire Chief Dennis Rubin, and HSEMA Director Darrell Darnell were also in attendance. If you would like to view HSEMA's Annual Report visit www.dcema.dc.gov.

Saturday, December 6, I attended the Ward 4 Democrats Annual Meeting and Senior Holiday Luncheon, which was held at the Hattie Holmes Senior Wellness Center, 324 Kennedy Street NW. I was joined by Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton as the event's guest speaker and over 100 senior residents from across Ward 4.

Monday, December 8, I along with Mayor Adrian Fenty and various District Government agencies including the Metropolitan Police Department, Department of Transportation, Department of Health, Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Community Relations and Services, and the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs participated in a walkthrough of the 1400 block of Kennedy Street NW, in the 16th Street Heights neighborhood of Ward 4. The purpose of this walkthrough was to address concerns of neighbors, including crime, speeding, parking, and economic development. My office will work with the agencies to ensure all concerns as a result of the walkthrough are addressed.

Legislative corner

Friday, December 12

10:00 AM, Room 412, Public Oversight Roundtable, Committee of the Whole, Vincent C. Gray, Chairman, Agenda Item: “The State of Special Education and the Strategy for Inclusion”.

11:00 AM, Room 123, Public Oversight Hearing, Committee on Human Services, Tommy Wells, Chairperson, Agenda Item: “Extending Adoption and Guardianship Subsidies until Age 21, Expanding Guardianship Subsidies to Non-Kin, and Providing Increased Post Adoption Support and Verification Requirements”.

12:00 PM, Council Chamber, Room 500, Public Oversight Hearing, Committee on Public Safety and the Judiciary, Phil Mendelson, Chairperson, Agenda Item: “Hate Crimes in the District of Columbia”.

Saturday, December 13

10:00 AM, Council Chamber, Room 500, Public Oversight Hearing, Committee of the Whole, Vincent C. Gray, Chairman, Agenda Item: “Youth Issues”.

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

Annual Ward 4 Holiday Party- Saturday, December 13

Join me this Saturday at the Annual Ward 4 Holiday Party, from 6 to 8 PM at the Kingsbury Day School, 5000 - 14th Street, NW. Enjoy live entertainment, great food and music. Contributions to the constituent fund will be used to purchase new coats for Ward 4 students. Your support would be appreciated. For additional information or to RSVP: Contact Brandon Todd at 202-724-8052 or btodd@dccouncil.us. We look forward to sharing the joys of the holiday season with you!

Internship opportunity at the Council

The Office of Youth Programs is now accepting applications for the pilot session of the Council’s Youth Internship Program. The application packet and instructions are available on the Office of Youth Programs’ webpage, <http://www.dccouncil.us/officeofyouthprograms>. The application deadline is January 9, 2009, and slots are limited! Please encourage any qualified students who may be interested to apply. If you would like additional information you may contact Cedric Jennings at cjennings@dccouncil.us.

DC Landlord training session- December 15

If you are a new Landlord or Apartment Manager, this training is for you. Don’t miss this training session to learn the proper way to register your property in the District of Columbia if you intend to have renters.

The purpose of this training is to assist small housing providers with the step-by-step process to register their residential rental properties in the District of Columbia. Further, this training will assist small housing providers in understanding how to take annual CPI-W rent increases. There will also be a brief discussion of other rent adjustment processes. All relevant forms will be provided to attendees.

Please join the DC Department of Housing and Community Development for this informative training session, Monday, December 15 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm, DHCD Headquarters, 801 North Capitol Street, NE, 9th Floor Washington, DC 20002.

For additional information or to RSVP you may contact Vivian Portis at (202) 442-7275 or vivian.portis@dc.gov.

Metro to discontinue paper transfers- January 4

Beginning January 4, 2009, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro) will no longer issue or accept paper transfers for travel in the Metro system. As of that date, customers will need a SmarTrip card to make free bus-to-bus transfers or to transfer from Metrorail to Metrobus or Metrobus to Metrorail for a discounted fare. In addition, the time period during which transfers are valid will increase, from two to three hours. For more information, or to find out how to buy a SmarTrip card, please visit www.MetroOpensDoors.com or call 202-637-7000.