



WARD 4  
**MURIEL**  
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

**FOCUS ON**



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## Dear Neighbors:

I hope many of you will be able to join me tomorrow, Saturday August 16th, for the unveiling of the “Battleground to Community: Brightwood Heritage Trail.” I will be joined by Mayor Adrian Fenty, Councilmember Kwame Brown, Cultural Tourism DC, the Brightwood Heritage Trail Working Group, and the District Department of Transportation, for the launch of this new heritage trail. I’m very pleased the Brightwood Heritage Trail is now complete. It will help link residents to the vibrant past of this neighborhood. It will create a sense of community today and foster a culture of curiosity among our young people for tomorrow. I hope residents and visitors will visit the trail often and continue to learn about the rich history in our backyard.

We will begin with a short ceremony at the Emery Recreation Center at 5701 Georgia Avenue, NW at 10 AM. Tours of the trail will begin at 11 AM. Free guidebooks will be available at Emery Recreation Center from 11 am to 4 pm, and at local businesses. The guidebooks can be downloaded for free at: [www.CulturalTourismDC.org](http://www.CulturalTourismDC.org). A complete list of distribution points is online as well. Students from Marie Reed’s Civil War Cadet Academy representing DC’s first regiment of US Colored Troops in 1863 will present the colors to introduce the program along with members from the Calvin Coolidge High School Marching Band.

The Brightwood Heritage Trail’s 18 poster-sized street signs combine storytelling, photography, and maps to lead you through this community’s interesting past. This history includes the site of the only Civil War battle to take place within the District of Columbia at Fort Stevens. The Heritage Trail’s first sign is located at 14th and Jefferson Streets, NW. The 90-minute, self-guided tour then proceeds up Georgia Avenue and winds around Fort Stevens, ending at Van Buren Street, NW, one block south of Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Cultural Tourism DC and the Brightwood Heritage Trail Working Group began their work to create the trail in 2004. Community residents led the effort to collect neighborhood stories and photographs, shaping the trail every step of the way. Stroll the trail and stop at neighborhood businesses and organizations for free cold drinks and discounts! For more information, visit the Cultural Tourism website at: [www.CulturalTourismDC.org](http://www.CulturalTourismDC.org) or call 202-661-7581. No reservations required. Street parking is available or take Metro bus # 70 or 71 from Georgia Avenue-Petworth Metro Station.

*Muriel*

### **Councilmember Bowser meets with Ward 4 Seniors – August 19 and 20**

Councilmember Bowser continues her commitment to our Ward 4 senior residents with a series of informal gatherings this week to hear about senior's priorities and update them on her efforts to bring public safety, affordable housing and human services programs to the Ward.

The meetings this week are a follow-up to Councilmember Bowser's Age in Place Symposium held in April 2008 at the Hattie Holmes Senior Wellness Center at 324 Kennedy Street, NW. Additional meetings will be scheduled as well.

Here are the meetings scheduled for this week:

Tuesday, August 19, 2008 at 3 PM in the Capital Commons' Community Room at 4202 13th Street, NW and Wednesday, August 20, 2008, at 3:00 PM in the Moore Towers' Community Room at 1301 Upshur Street, NW.

Hope you can join us. Please call Brandon Todd at 202-724-8052 for more information.

### **Councilmember Bowser invites neighbors to come meet potential developers for properties in the 3800 block of Georgia Avenue – August 21**

Please join Councilmember Muriel Bowser and the Deputy Mayor's Office for Planning and Economic Development on Thursday, August 21, 2008 at 6:30 PM in the Patrol Services Bureau at 801 Shepherd Street, NW (Room 245) to meet the developers who have submitted proposals for the buildings at 3813 and 3815 Georgia Avenue, NW as well as 3825-29 Georgia Avenue, NW. These sites could include a combination of retail, restaurants, and housing for the Petworth community. This meeting follows the announcement on April 25 for the solicitation for offers.

The District of Columbia currently owns the properties at 3813 and 3815 Georgia Avenue, NW as well as a vacant lot at 3825-29 Georgia Avenue, NW. These projects will join other new mixed-use developments nearing completion above the Petworth Metro Station at 3700 Georgia Avenue, known as Park Place, with 153 condos and 17,000 square feet of retail space with 20% of the units to be sold at less than 60% of the area median income. And also the Georgia Commons at 3910-3912 Georgia Avenue, NW with 19,500 square feet of retail and 130 rental apartments above. The Georgia Commons includes 57 affordable housing units. The Safeway Company previously announced plans to replace the 21,000 square foot store at Georgia Avenue and Randolph Street, NW with a state of the art 55,000 to 60,000 square foot lifestyle store. The store would occupy the ground floor with a multi-story residential building above it. Parking would be provided in an underground parking garage. The new store will feature floral, service seafood, service meat, organic produce, prepared food and deli departments, a drycleaner, Starbucks, pharmacy and a wide variety of grocery products including organic grocery items.

We hope to see you on August 21!

### **DCPS Annual Beautification Day – August 23**

Councilmember Muriel Bowser encourages residents to come out for an hour or two or five to help with the Annual DCPS Beautification Day on Saturday August 23 from 8:00am to 1:00pm in preparation for the start of school on August 25th.

Volunteers are needed to help with projects at schools across the Ward. They are also looking for site managers to facilitate the day's activities at each school. If you are interested in volunteering please visit: <http://www.k12.dc.us> or email: [dcpsvolunteers@dc.gov](mailto:dcpsvolunteers@dc.gov), or call 202-442-5447.

Even if you have just ONE hour to volunteer on Saturday, August 25 that would be much appreciated. Our schools need your help! Thanks!

### **Ward 4 Soccer registration now through August 23**

Pre-registration for the Ward 4 Soccer League will take place through Saturday, August 23 at the Takoma Community Center, 300 Van Buren Street, NW. Kick-off for the league is Saturday, September 6.

Youth ages 3-12 years of age are invited to join one of several teams during the fall season. Children not affiliated with an existing or new team are welcome to join. Registration for school teams will be done through the first week of school. There are three new school teams anticipated this year at: Whittier Elementary School, Takoma Educational Center, and also at Washington Yu Ying Public Charter School.

For more information, please email the Friends of Takoma Recreation Center President, Gina Douglas at: [ginadouglas@starpower.net](mailto:ginadouglas@starpower.net) or call 202-726-1259. The Friends ask for a donation to support the travel costs of the youth referees.

### **Due to popular demand, DPR extends pool and spray park days**

The DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has extended the schedule of outdoor pools and spray parks to make the summer swimming season last a little longer. The last day of operation for each Ward 4 spray park and outdoor pool is listed below, the complete schedule is also available on DPR's website at [www.dpr.dc.gov](http://www.dpr.dc.gov).

#### **Friday, August 22 - Spray Parks**

Lafayette Recreation Center, 5900 33rd St., NW

Petworth Recreation Center, 801 Taylor St., NW

Riggs LaSalle Community Center, 501 Riggs Rd., NE

#### **Monday, September 1 – Outdoor pools**

Upshur, 14th St. & Arkansas Ave., NW

DPR's indoor aquatic facilities operate throughout the year, locations and hours for all of DPR aquatic centers is available on DPR's website at [www.dpr.dc.gov](http://www.dpr.dc.gov).