



WARD 4
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

FOCUS ON



August 8, 2008

IN THIS ISSUE ...

Thanks for a great National Night Out on August 5!

Ward 4 hosts the Legg Mason Tennis Classic 2008 –

Beginning this weekend!

Councilmember Bowser welcomes the Kennedy Street

Clean and Safe Team – August 11

Councilmember Bowser hosts community meeting with DDOT - 16th Street traffic patterns – August 11

Brightwood Heritage Trail launches on August 16

Update on Curtis Chevrolet site redevelopment plans

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

Dear Neighbors:

I was so pleased to be joined by so many children, parents, grand parents, friends and neighbors for the 4th District MPD National Night Out festivities on the field at Paul Public Charter School on Tuesday evening. The National Night Out is an annual event, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, and involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from 9,500 communities from all 50 states, US territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide.

National Night Out is designed to: heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

There were community cook outs held all over the District with music, games and activities for young people, bingo for seniors, along with information on community safety. The Second District held a spirited event at 17th and Church Street, NW and there were events on the National Mall too.

A big thanks to all the volunteers and police officers that helped plan the events and business owners that gave their support and helped make the National Night Out 2008 a BIG success!!

Muriel

Ward 4 hosts the Legg Mason Tennis Classic 2008 – Beginning this weekend!

Ward 4 is proud to host the 40th edition of the Legg Mason Tennis Classic (an Olympus US Open Series Event) beginning August 9th until August 16th on the grounds of Rock Creek Park/Carter Barron at 16th Street and Kennedy Streets, NW in the William H.G. Fitzgerald Tennis Center. Qualifying matches take place this Saturday and Sunday and main draw competition begins on Sunday. Weekday action kicks-off on Monday August 11 at 4 PM.

The event has competitions including 32 main draw singles, 16 team Main Draw Doubles and 32 qualifying draw singles. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Washington Tennis and Education Foundation (WTEF), winner of the 2008 Washington Post Award for Excellence in Nonprofit Management. WTEF strives to improve the life of Washington, DC young people through tennis education and community-based activities that teach discipline, build self esteem and improve academic performance. For more information about the WTEF please visit: www.wtef.org and for more information about the tennis classic please visit: www.leggmasontennisclassic.com

Our office has been working closely with MPD, the Legg Mason Tennis Classic organizers, National Park Service (NPS), NPS Police, ANC Commissioners and civic leaders to reduce the impact of parking on the neighborhood streets. We have issued special visitor parking permits to nearby neighbors and MPD, NPS, and the tennis classic organizers are discouraging visitors from parking on local streets. Additional visitor parking permits can be obtained at the MPD 4th District Headquarters at 6001 Georgia Avenue, NW. The Department of Transportation has posted "no parking" signs and the National Park Service has set up barricades. The MPD will be patrolling the perimeter areas and NPS will be enforcing parking during the entire tournament. If neighbors have questions about the parking/traffic management plans, please contact Lisa Adams who is coordinating this event for my office at 202-724-8052.

Councilmember Bowser welcomes the Kennedy Street Clean and Safe Team – August 11

Councilmember Muriel Bowser is very pleased to welcome the Kennedy Street Clean and Safe Team on Monday, August 11, 2008 at 10:30 am in front of Yum's Carry Out at 628 Kennedy Street, NW (corner of 7th and Kennedy Streets, NW). Neighborhood businesses and residents are welcome to come hear about this great new project that will help revitalize this important commercial corridor.

"I am thrilled that the Kennedy Street Clean and Safe Team will begin work this week," said Councilmember Bowser. "The team will provide an important service to the Kennedy Street commercial corridor which will increase cleanliness and improve public safety. This project is continuing my commitment to focus on key Ward 4 commercial corridors and ensure that they are thriving with businesses and residents wanting to use the services offered," she added.

The Kennedy Street Clean and Safe Team will launch service delivery on Monday, August 11, 2008. The Kennedy Street Clean and Safe Team will provide litter and graffiti removal from the curbs and sidewalks, tree box maintenance, debris transfer, and other public space maintenance services Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the Kennedy Street corridor from Georgia Avenue, NW to North Capitol Street, NW. A crew will also provide services on Saturdays and Sundays from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.

This project is funded by the DC Department of Public Works (DPW) and managed by the Columbia Heights/Shaw Family Support Collaborative, which has been awarded a grant through the DC Department of Small and Local Business Development.

Councilmember Bowser hosts community meeting with DDOT - 16th Street traffic patterns – August 11

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) recently released their draft Pedestrian Master Plan. The plan is a culmination of 18 months of study that examined all aspects of the District's pedestrian environment, from policies to design guidelines to specific safety improvements in the city's highest pedestrian crash corridors. The Plan has two primary goals: 1) to reduce the number of pedestrians killed and injured in crashes with motor vehicles; and 2) to increase pedestrian activity by making walking a comfortable and accessible mode of travel throughout all parts of the District.

The Pedestrian Master Plan is scheduled to be implemented over 10 years at a total cost of over \$18 million. The policies and design standards that are established and/or recommended in the Plan are intended to improve the safety and walk-ability of the pedestrian environment in the District.

The Pedestrian Master Plan includes a proposal to remove the reversible lanes along 16th Street, NW. To respond to residents, Councilmember Bowser is hosting a community meeting with representatives of DDOT on Monday, August 11 at 6:30 PM at the National Church of the Nazarene, 4401 16th St. N.W., Washington D.C. 20011. To review the Pedestrian Master Plan please visit: <http://www.tooledesign.com/projects/dc/reports.html> or call our office and we can send you a copy 202-724-8052.

DDOT will continue to accept public comment on the Draft District Pedestrian Master Plan through Friday, September 12, 2008. Comments may be sent to DDOT at 2000 14th Street, NW, 7th Floor, TPPA/Pedestrian Master Plan, Washington, DC, 20009 or electronically at the website listed above.

Brightwood Heritage Trail launches on August 16

On Saturday August 16th, please join Councilmember Muriel Bowser, Cultural Tourism DC, the Brightwood Heritage Trail Working Group, and the District Department of Transportation, for the unveiling of the “Battleground to Community: Brightwood Heritage Trail.” The launch of the new heritage trail will begin 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 that day and thereafter. The guidebooks can be downloaded for free at: 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 storied past. This past includes the site of the only Civil War battle to take place within the District 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. Ward 4 Councilmember Muriel Bowser looks forward to the launch of the Brightwood 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,” said Councilmember Bowser.

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 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.

Update on Curtis Chevrolet site redevelopment plans

Councilmember Bowser is pleased to report that Foulger Pratt Companies and the DC Preservation League (DCPL) have reached an agreement in principle which will enable both redevelopment of the former Curtis Chevrolet site (at the corner of Georgia Avenue and Peabody Streets, NW) and also retention of a portion of the original car barn (built in 1909). The agreement in principle, which will shortly mature into a private agreement between the developer and DCPL, will specify that the front part of the structure be retained and restored, and adaptively re-used, while the less visible rear portion is demolished. “I’m happy this compromise has been reached so the project can continue to move forward,” Councilmember Bowser said. “The redevelopment of the property, the former Curtis Chevrolet site, is key to lay the ground work for the revitalization of Georgia Avenue. Throughout my tenure on the City Council, I have pushed to get this project off the ground, and will continue to do so.”

The proposed development will be a mixed-use community. It will include approximately 400 multi-family homes above first floor restaurants and convenience retail, some of which will be housed in part of the original car barn. The residential component will include a pool and deck, fitness center, business center, theater, cyber café, and secure underground parking. The development is expected to break ground in about a year. Foulger-Pratt owns the property in a joint venture with the Dworken family, long time operators of Curtis Chevrolet. .