



WARD 4  
**MURIEL**  
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

**FOCUS ON**



*April 11, 2008*

## IN THIS ISSUE ...

- Highlights of Committee of the Whole meeting - April 15**
- Riggs-LaSalle Recreation Center Grand Opening – Tomorrow 10:30 AM**
- Schedule for DC Emancipation Day - April 16**
- Congratulations to the 2008 DPR Youth Basketball Champions!**
- Takoma Spring Clean Up day – April 19**
- Takoma DC Business Expo – April 22**
- Save the Date – Ward 4 Age In Place Symposium – April 24**

### *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:

On Tuesday, April 15, there will be a Committee of the Whole meeting when the following measures will be considered:

- ★ **District of Columbia School Reform Property Disposition Clarification Amendment Act of 2007, Bill 17-0217** will require that an existing public charter school in good standing or an organization providing educational or youth services under contract with the District government that has been a tenant of a DC government property since 2004 should be given the right of first offer with regard to the purchase, lease, transfer, or use of a facility or property.
- ★ **Affordable Housing Clearinghouse Directory Act of 2008, Bill 17-0339** will create a resource directory and clearinghouse of affordable housing units available in the District of Columbia and to create reporting requirements for developers of affordable housing.

Councilmember Bowser's legislation to eliminate the sunset date (September 30, 2008) on the moratorium of the sale of individual containers of beer, malt liquor or ale, also known as the Ward 4 Single Sales Moratorium is moving along. There was a hearing on April 8th and it will be marked up in committee this afternoon April 11. "I have heard from residents, ANC Commissioners and members of the Metropolitan Police Department all over Ward 4 about how effective the Ward 4 Single Sales Moratorium has been to eliminate litter, public drunkenness and other quality of life issues," said Councilmember Bowser. "I look forward to its continuation."

I hope this is helpful information and please visit the DC Council website for more details at: [www.dccouncil.us](http://www.dccouncil.us).

*Muriel*

### **Riggs-LaSalle Recreation Center Grand Opening –Tomorrow 10:30 AM**

Please join Councilmember Muriel Bowser, Mayor Adrian Fenty and Clark Ray, Director of Parks and Recreation for the Grand Opening of the Riggs-LaSalle Recreation Center on Saturday April 12 at 10:30 AM at 501 Riggs Road, NE. There will be light refreshments, games, t-shirts and more. This \$9.8 million, state of the art recreation center will be the cornerstone of the community and will be great addition to the Riggs Park community. It will be one of the most environmental sound DC government buildings with a LEED (Leadership Energy Environmental Design) certification of silver and may possibly reach gold with construction points yet to be awarded. The new recreation center will include the following amenities: gymnasium, weight/fitness room, computer lab, multi-purpose community room, spray park, exterior patio seating, arts and crafts room and refurbished outside basketball courts. The hours of operation will be Monday-Friday from 10 AM to 9 PM and Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM. Some of the new programs include: aerobics, board game strategy classes, computer access classes, drama club, pilates classes, puzzle clubs, etc...For more information please call Shirletta Settles, recreation center manager at: 202-576-3308.

### **Schedule for DC Emancipation Day - April 16**

Many District of Columbia government services will be limited on Wednesday April 16 in celebration of Emancipation Day. On April 16 1862, President Lincoln signed the Compensated Emancipation Act, For the release of certain persons held to service or labor in the District of Columbia, making DC residents the "First Freed" by the federal government.

In 2005 Emancipation Day was made an official public holiday in the District of Columbia. In 2007, Mayor Adrian Fenty dedicated Emancipation Day to the continued struggle for full Democracy in Washington, DC with a Voting Rights March to the United States Capitol demanding equal representation in Congress.

The following Department of Parks and Recreation facilities will operate under a holiday schedule. DPR facilities not listed here will be closed in observance of the holiday.

#### **Recreation and Community Centers:**

The following sites will be open from 10:30 am – 7 pm:

Emery Recreation Center, 5701 Georgia Ave., NW , Phone: (202) 576-3211

Lamond Recreation Center , 20 Tuckerman St., NE , Phone: (202) 576-9542

Takoma Community Center, 300 Van Buren St., NW, Phone: (202) 576-7114

Takoma Aquatic Center will be open 9 am – 5 pm: 300 Van Buren St., NW, Phone: (202) 576-9533

### **Congratulations to the 2008 DPR Youth Basketball Champions!**

After a season of play and a day of exciting championship games on Saturday, April 5, 2008, at the Lamond Recreation Center, 20 Tuckerman Street, NE, we are proud to announce the 2008 DPR Youth Basketball League Champions. There were seven championship teams – three of which are in Ward 4 – those included: **Riggs LaSalle** -- Riggs LaSalle (10) vs. Barry Farms (9) -- Girls, 12 and under, **Lamond** -- Watkins (29) vs. Lamond (35) -- Boys, 12 and under and **Lamond** -- Joe Cole (39) vs. Lamond (43) -- Boys, 16 – 18. Congratulations to all the winning teams!

Also there is a new activity that has been added at the Upshur Recreation Center at 4300 Arkansas Avenue, NW: Teeny Tiny Tot Soccer begins April 17 through June 5, 2008 from 6:00-7:00pm for all children ages: 2-3 years old. For more information please contact Evelyn Lightfoot at: 202-541-1299 or by email: [Evelyn.Lightfoot@dc.gov](mailto:Evelyn.Lightfoot@dc.gov).

### **Takoma Spring Clean Up day – April 19**

Main Street Takoma's annual Spring Clean Up Day is Saturday, April 19, from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. (Rain date April 26). Volunteers are asked to gather at the Triangle Park at 4th Street, NW, to pick up litter, mulch the tree boxes and plant flowers. There will be gloves and bags for trash removal, and mulch and plantings for the gardening work. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own gardening gloves and tools. For more information about Clean Up Day, please visit [www.takomaonline.com](http://www.takomaonline.com) or email: [designcommittee@mainstreettakoma.org](mailto:designcommittee@mainstreettakoma.org).

### **Takoma DC Business Expo – April 22**

Takoma, DC and Takoma Park, MD businesses are invited to the second annual Takoma DC Business Expo on Tuesday, April 22, 2008 from 7:30-9:00 PM at the Promised Land Baptist Church, 400 Van Buren Street (across from the Takoma Recreation Center). The expo will exhibit the goods and services offered by local businesses. Please contact Carolivia Herron at [carolivia@gmail.com](mailto:carolivia@gmail.com) or call 202-829-2427, if you would like your business to be included in the expo. The expo is sponsored by the Takoma DC Neighborhood Association.

### **Save the Date – Ward 4 Age In Place Symposium – April 24**

Please save Thursday, April 24 from 9:30 to 1:30 PM for a Ward 4 Age In Place Symposium at the Hattie Holmes Senior Wellness Center at 324 Kennedy Street, NW. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. There will be representatives of Age In Place programs that offer senior citizens quality home repair and maintenance services that enhance the integrity of their home, promote senior independence and enable seniors to stay in their homes longer. For more information please contact Joy Holland at [jholland@dccouncil.us](mailto:jholland@dccouncil.us) or call 202-724-8052.