



WARD 4
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

FOCUS ON



September 28, 2007

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Dear Neighbors -

In light of the return to the Council session earlier this month, I thought I would remind you about the resources available to find out about the work of the Council.

The Council's website www.dccouncil.us offers a wealth of information including contact information for Council members, the organization of the Council, how the public can participate, Calendar of the Week, legislation, the DC Code and how a bill becomes a law.

Calendar of the Week: This tool is published by the Council and includes notices of public hearings, introductions and the effectiveness of laws. It is available for free by calling 724-8080 and ask to be added to the mailing list. The Calendar is also available on the website – www.dccouncil.us.

The District of Columbia *Register* is the weekly official legal bulletin published every Friday by the D.C. Office of Documents and Administrative Issuances. Subscriptions to the Register are \$195/year and free copies are available at ANC offices and at libraries. You can also review the Register online and complete advanced searches at:

[http://www.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates\\$fn=default.htm\\$vid=dcr:free](http://www.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates$fn=default.htm$vid=dcr:free)

Cable Channel 13 provides gavel-to-gavel coverage of the live and recorded activities of the City Council and its various committees. Viewers can access the schedule at: <http://octt.dc.gov/services/channel13/menu.shtm>.

I hope these resources are helpful and please feel free to be in touch with our office at any time 202-724-8052.

Muriel

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Abandoned Vehicle Operations

Abandoned and dangerous vehicles are a major concern in our neighborhoods. We need your help to report abandoned vehicles and get them removed quickly from our streets and alleys.

A “dangerous” vehicle is one that poses an imminent hazard to the public health, safety or welfare. An “abandoned” vehicle is any motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer that is left, parked, or stored on public space for more than 48 hours; or stored on private property for more than 45 days, and to which at least two of the following list apply:

- 1) The vehicle is extensively damaged, including but not limited to, fire damage;
- 2) The vehicle is apparently inoperable and is not undergoing emergency repair;
- 3) The vehicle serves as harborage for rats, vermin, and other pests;
- 4) The vehicle does not display valid license plates or a valid registration sticker.

Please call 727-1000, the Mayor’s Call Center and report abandoned or dangerous vehicles. When you call, please be prepared to give the following information:

- 1) Exact location of the vehicle;
- 2) Where the vehicle is parked at that location (i.e. in the alley or on the lawn);
- 3) Vehicle license plate number and state if applicable;
- 4) Vehicle color, make and model (2-door, 4-door, etc.);
- 5) Condition of vehicle (tires, body and interior, trash inside);
- 6) Length of time the vehicle has been at that location.

DPW’s Parking Services Administration will allow a minimum of 3 to 5 business days before they place an official warning notice on the vehicle. If the vehicle remains in place for more than 2 days after the notice is placed, DPW will have the vehicle scheduled for removal by a private towing company.

For vehicles abandoned on private property, DPW will take 45 days to remove the vehicle unless the owner has given authorization for DPW to remove it. In all instances, DPW will attempt to locate and notify the owners and any lien holder of record. The owner or lien holder has 28 days, after the date of notice, to reclaim the vehicle by paying all fees plus towing and storage charges. Payments must be made at the Adjudication Services office. For more information, please contact Teri Adams, Program Administrator at 202-576-6601.

Upcoming Events

Community Visioning for Upshur and Hamilton Parks – September 29

The Friends of 16th Street Heights Parks, along with the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and Councilmember Bowser’s office, are holding a community visioning on Saturday, September 29, 2007, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Emory Recreation Center, 5701 Georgia Avenue, NW. The meeting will focus on the community’s vision for the parks and play spaces. Please come and bring your ideas. Lunch and childcare will be provided. For more information contact Jean Badalamenti at 202-829-2543 or friendsof16thstreetparks@googlegroups.com. We hope to see you on Saturday!

Ward 4 is Open for Business - Business Roundtable – October 4

Councilmember Muriel Bowser will host a Business Roundtable on Thursday, October 4, 2007 from 9 am to Noon at the Emory United Methodist Church, 6120 Georgia Avenue, NW. The format of the roundtable will be interactive with presentations from Councilmember Bowser and many DC government agencies, with ample time to visit the information tables set up around the room. This is an opportunity to bring Ward 4 businesses together to discuss how to improve the business climate in the Ward, how to take advantage of existing programs and services, and how the revitalization of our corridors will be good for business.

There will be presentations from the following agencies:

DC Department of Small and Local Business Development

DC Office of Planning, including the Great Streets Initiative, Main Streets and other revitalization programs

Chamber of Commerce Business Resource Center

DCRA business licenses

Office of Contracts and Procurement

Deputy Mayor's Office for Planning and Economic Development

Don't miss this important discussion. To confirm your participation, please call Kristen Barden, Communications Director, at 202.741.0917 or email kbarden@dccouncil.us.

Ward 4 Dog Parks meeting – Rescheduled to October 6

Please join Muriel and Clark Ray, Director of DC Department of Parks and Recreation, at the Emery Recreation Center, 5701 Georgia Avenue, NW, on Saturday October 6th, 2007 from 10 AM to 12 noon to discuss the draft dog park regulations introduced earlier this spring. There will also be a discussion about potential sites for dog parks in Ward 4. Please RSVP for this meeting to Kristen Barden, Communications Director at kbarden@dccouncil.us or by calling 202-741-0917.

Also on Saturday September 29 there will be animal licensing, micro-chipping, and vaccination from 10 am to 2pm at 1201 New York Avenue, N.E. The licensing is \$13 for sterilized pets and \$46 for unsterilized pets. The micro-chipping is \$25 and the vaccinations are free.

Save the Date - Joint Utility Discount Day – October 31

The DC Department of the Environment (DDOE) is sponsoring a Joint Utility Discount Day on Wednesday, October 31, 2007 from 8 am to 7 pm at the Washington Convention Center. At the Convention Center, eligible residents can apply for low-income home energy assistance with Washington Gas, Pepco, DC WASA and Verizon all in one place. Individuals with disabilities can call the DDOE hotline at 202-673-6750 and schedule an appointment.

Resources

Welcome to new Ward 4 business - Lapels Dry Cleaners on 14th Street!

Welcome to Lapels Dry Cleaning at 4710 14th Street, NW (across the street from the Metro Bus Barn) who will be having their grand opening on October 6, 2007 from 11 am to 2 pm.

Come and celebrate the grand opening of Lapels Dry Cleaning, nestled in the 16th Street Heights neighborhood. Sweets, coffee, balloons for the kids and a raffle for anyone who brings in \$15 in dry cleaning or more starting Saturday Oct. 6th at 7am.

Lapels Dry Cleaner offers same day service on most items and free VIP express service, which allows you to drop off clothing at anytime. They are open 7 days a week: Mon-Fri, 6:30-7; Sat 7-5; Sun 11-3 and can be reached at 202-291-0163.

Power Outages and Pepco phone numbers

From time to time, power outages occur for various reasons across Pepco's service territory. In most cases, power is restored in less than two hours but sometimes, more serious outages are possible. Hurricanes, thunderstorms, ice storms, fierce winds and extreme heat can strain the power delivery system and can prolong power restoration. Outages may last a few seconds or a few days, depending upon the cause. The most common causes of power outages are: natural causes, human error, and equipment failure. There are also occasions when maintenance will result in an outage.

In the event of a power outage, here are some handy reference numbers:

To report an outage (24 hours): call 1-877-PEPCO-62 (1-877-737-2662)

To report downed wires and life-threatening emergencies: 202-872-3432

TTY: 202-872-2369

Please do not dial 911 for outage information or to report power outages. Also Pepco cannot respond to outages reported by e-mail.