

# www.LRCADC.org

"A Community Newsletter" —LRCA, P.O. Box 60272, Washington, DC 20039 (202)930-5473

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202-930-5473

**THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Greetings Lamond-Riggs,

With the new year, I am saddened to report that the community lost 17-year-old Davon Fisher to violence earlier in January. We extend our condolences to his family and we implore anyone with information about this crime to call MPD at (202) 727-9099 or text 50411.

In December, the DC Department of Parks and Recreation opened a new tech lounge at the Riggs-LaSalle Recreation Center. The lounge has wi-fi, e-gaming, and computers. It is designed to be a gathering space for seniors to use computers and play board games during the day and to be a safe space for teens during after-school hours. Please check it out.

The LRCA is celebrating 70 years as a civic association this year. To learn about the Association's history, visit <http://www.lrca.com/history>. Details on our 70th anniversary celebration to come.

Please join us for our next meeting on February 5 where we will have the honor of welcoming Mayor Muriel Bowser as our guest. She will be joined by DDOT Director Jeff Marootian and other District government officials.

As always, if you would like to join LRCA to support scholarships for neighborhood youth, you can easily pay online at <http://www.lrca.org/join-lrca>. Over the past two years, the LRCA has awarded \$6,000 in scholarship money to neighborhood youth now attending Norfolk State University, North Carolina A&T University, Penn State University, Spelman College, Towson University, and University of Pittsburgh. Our goal for this year is to award another \$3,000 in scholarship money in June. Let's recognize the achievements of young people excelling in our neighborhood.

In service,  
Uchenna Evans

**NOTICES & AGENDA**

**LRCA Meetings**

*General meetings are scheduled for the first Monday of each month from October thru June, 7:00 pm—8:45 pm at:*

*LaSalle-Backus Education Campus  
501 Riggs Road, NE, Washington, DC, 20011*

The next LRCA meetings will be held on:  
Monday, February 5, 2018  
Monday, March 5, 2018  
Monday, April 2, 2018  
7:00 pm in the LaSalle-Backus EC Auditorium (off Madison Street).

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome
2. Updates from PSA Officers
3. Guest Speakers
4. Updates from Elected Officials
5. Officer's Reports: Minutes and Treasurer
6. Committee Updates
7. Closing Remarks

**Police Service Area (PSA) Officers**

PSA 405

Lt. Todd Perkins  
todd.perkins@dc.gov; cell: (202) 904-5383

PSA 406

Lt. Ozetta Posey  
ozetta.posey@dc.gov; cell: (202) 528-8429

**Mingle Mondays with ANC Commissioners  
Barbara Rogers (4B08) & Tischa Cockrell (4B09)**

3rd Monday Monthly  
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
Culture Coffee Too (300 Riggs Road NE)

**ANC 4B09 SMD Meeting with  
Commissioner Tischa Cockrell**

6:30 pm, 3rd Tuesday Monthly  
Riggs-LaSalle Recreation Center (501 Riggs Road NE)

**ANC 5A08 SMD Meeting with  
Commissioner Gordon Fletcher**

Tuesday, February 27, 2018  
6:30 pm  
UDC-CC Backus Room 129 (5171 South Dakota Avenue NE)

**Free Food Pantry**

4:00 pm, 3rd Thursday Monthly  
LaSalle-Backus Education Center (501 Riggs Road NE)  
Free bags of groceries for community members

**Free tax assistance**

Every Monday & Thursday (February through April)  
10:00 am  
Lamond-Riggs Library  
5401 South Dakota Avenue NE  
AARP provides free tax assistance for qualified individuals.

**SPECIAL THANKS**

**Printing of this newsletter brought to you by:**

**Tanya Slade, REALTOR®**  
**Long and Foster Real Estate Inc**  
**Office - 202-526-7141**  
**Cell - 571-235-7191**  
**Tanya.Slade@LongandFoster.com**



**Neighborhood Blitz**

Every Tuesday, Ward 4 MOCR Jasmin Benab and ANC Commissioner Barbara Rogers (4B08) have worked with District agencies to address rodent, public safety, and trash concerns.

Areas covered so far:

- 300/400/500 Block Riggs Road NE
- 300/400/500 Block Oneida Street NE
- 300/400/500 Block Oglethorpe Street NE
- 500/600 Block Nicholson Street NE
- Area outside Riggs-LaSalle Recreation Center and LaSalle-Backus EC

Use 311 to report any issues and request city services.

- 311 Online Portal - 311.dc.gov
- Mobile App for Apple/Android - DC311
- Text DC311
- Twitter @311DCGov
- Call 311 or call (202) 737-4404

**Clear Sidewalks of Snow and Ice**

Be a good neighbor and shovel the sidewalk in front of your home after snow and ice. It is not only the law, but it is also the neighborly thing to do. Please assist your neighbors who are not able to do so.

**Free Indoor Compost Training**

Saturday, February 3, 2018  
9:30 am – 11:30 am  
Bertie Backus Food Hub (Indoor)  
5171 South Dakota Avenue NE (off Galloway Street)

Learn how to compost your non-meat kitchen food scraps at the Bertie Backus Food Hub.

**DPR Summer Camp**

Registration begins Monday, February 5, 2018. To register and for information on reduced rate applications, visit <https://dpr.dc.gov/service/summer-camps>.

**Art Comes to Riggs Park**

NEW DATE: April 7-8, 2018

Stay tuned for details on the first Riggs Park neighborhood art crawl. Details will be posted at <http://www.lrcadc.org>

**In Memoriam**

Dr. Helen V. Tate; Walter M. Reid; William H. Berry; Clareth Williams Jones; Davon Fisher

# LRCA

## LRCA General Membership Meeting Minutes LaSalle-Backus Education Campus December 4, 2017

President Uchenna Evans called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM. President Evans announced that LRCA has teamed up with LaSalle-Backus during their holiday drive to support homeless families with students enrolled in the school.

**Lt. Posey** – Crime in PSA 406 is down. There is a new Captain and she will be present in the February meeting. Year to date there have been 115 reports of theft, 24 reports of stolen automobiles, 7 robberies and 0 homicides and shootings. Lt. Posey reminds the community to pay attention to your bags when you shop, stop at gas stations and park. Never leave bags in your car – even if they are empty. Be vigilant when walking to and from the metro, to your car and in parking lots. If you are nervous about walking to your car at night, ask a security guard or officer to accompany you – the Walmart has MPD officers on duty at night. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lt. Posey directly.

**Sheila King, LRCA Financial Secretary** – LRCA started the year with a cash balance of \$3,421 and has collected \$2,095 from membership and donations over the last couple of months – donations to recover the cost of printing the newsletter. Expenses for printing total \$1,031 with miscellaneous expenses totaling \$16. As of November 30, LRCA's balance was \$4,469.

**Uchenna Evans, President of LRCA** – Minutes were adopted for October and November 2017. Red line closed between Ft. Totten to Silver Spring until December 10 - there are shuttle buses to Takoma & Silver Spring metros. If you live on an RPP block make sure to register for a visitor parking pass at [vpp.ddot.dc.gov/vpp](http://vpp.ddot.dc.gov/vpp) or call 202-671-2700. A marked, accessible crosswalk has been installed on Galloway Street at 4th Street NE. A 311 request for fixing the traffic light at South Dakota and Hamilton and adding more time for pedestrians to cross South Dakota at Galloway Street were submitted. Both issues have been addressed. A request for a hawk light at South Dakota and Ingraham St. was submitted. A police camera has been put up at 6th and Oglethorpe per request of the Association.

**Chanel Carter, Family Market Distribution Program Manager at Capital Area Food Bank** – LaSalle-Backus has a food pantry program for families with children at the school. The next market is Thursday December 21 and is present at the school each third Thursday from September through June. There is a fresh produce market on L St. on the 1st Saturday of the month; all you need is a DC ID. If you would like to volunteer at the school, speak with Mrs. Linda Hodges. You can also volunteer at the Food Bank. For information on life necessities and where to get help, visit [https:// www.capitalareafoodbank.org/get-help](https://www.capitalareafoodbank.org/get-help).

**LaSalle-Backus Principal Justin Ralston** – There has been a dramatic increase in homeless enrollment this year. If you would like to support the holiday drive and need a donation receipt, stop by the school between 8:00am and 4:30pm to request one. The school will be accepting items for the holiday drive - toys and food - until December 20 but the sooner the better so that they can make sure the food and toys go out to the neediest families. The school gave out 65 turkeys

**Jean Lee and Jerry Blasenstein, Food and Friends** – Food and Friends is a nutritional services organization that prepares and delivers food to people living with debilitating illnesses. All meals are tailored to specific medical needs. Clients are referred to Food and Friends via medical doctor or social worker. All services that Food and Friends provides are free. There are lots of ways to volunteer: meal preparation, office administration, grocery bag assembly, or delivery. Volunteers can also help at different special events throughout the year – Slice of Life, Dining out for Life, Chef's Best. The website is <http://www.foodandfriends.org>.

**Dr. Sabine O'Hara, Dean of UDC CAUSES** – UDC is the only urban land grant university in the nation. Greenhouses at UDC Backus on South Dakota Avenue are growing fruits and vegetables using a hydroponic system and an aquaponic system. The third greenhouse is a native plant nursery where UDC is growing native plants to combat invasive species in DC. UDC offers lots of courses and certificate programs around agriculture, architecture, food safety and management, food distribution, and others. Composting classes will start again in January. There will be gardening workshops for the raised bed gardens. If you would like to apply for a garden, see Ms. Dixon once the gardening season starts. To keep up to date with UDC CAUSES sign up as a volunteer on the UDC website under UDC CAUSES.

**Philip McAuley, Mayors Office Ward 4 MOCR** – Annual Edfest at DC Armory is on December 9 from 11:00am to 3:00pm. The event is a great way to meet local DCPS and charter schools (over 150 schools represented). Mayor's Annual Fresh Start 5k is on January 1, 2018 at 9:00am at Anacostia Park. You can register via Eventbrite online. You can now sign up online to volunteer for the Snow Program to help DC seniors in the community by shoveling snow. If you are a senior interested in these services you can visit [www.snowteam.dc.gov](http://www.snowteam.dc.gov) or call (202) 727-7925. The mayor held a press conference pertaining to the new tax bill and its effects on DC, especially around affordable housing. To view the video visit [www.mayor.dc.gov](http://www.mayor.dc.gov).

**Faye Caldwell, Special Assistant to Ward 4 Councilmember Brandon Todd** – This year the office gave out 100 gift cards to Ward 4 residents. Call the office next year to say that you are interested in a gift card in November if you would like to participate. Annual Ward 4 Holiday Party is Saturday, December 16 from 6:00 to 8:00pm at Lafayette Elementary School: 5701 Broad Branch Road NW. If you plan on attending, please consider bringing a new coat for a Ward 4 student if you can. If you are bringing a coat, you must RSVP by calling (202) 724-8052.

**Barbara Mitchell, Legislative Director to Ward 5 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie** – The Annual Ward 5 Holiday Party will be on Wednesday, December 13 6:00pm to 9:00pm at Dock 5 Union Market: 1309 5<sup>th</sup> Street NE. There will be transportation available for seniors. For more information call (202) 725-8028. Councilmember McDuffie supported the Mayor at her press conference where she spoke about the federal tax bill and demanded Congress to do better. The councilmember is supportive of the Metro name change to Ft. Totten/Riggs Park but would like to see support from other neighborhood organizations before moving forward.

**ANC 4B09 Commissioner Tischa Cockrell** – No meeting in December; meetings will start again on January 16 at the Riggs-LaSalle Recreation Center. DCRA will be at the January meeting. If you have questions please email them to Commissioner Cockrell at [4B09@anc.dc.gov](mailto:4B09@anc.dc.gov) prior.

**ANC 4B08 Commissioner Barbara Rogers** – Holiday Brunch on December 16. Commissioners Cockrell and Rogers are teaming up for Mingle Mondays – December 11 and 18 and starting January it will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month from 6:30pm – 8pm at Coffee Culture Too, 300 Riggs Road NE.

Coffee Culture Too is hosting a gingerbread home workshop for children on December 17 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. There are 22 spots available – RSVP at the shop.

LRCA will not meet in January. First meeting of the new year will be the first Monday in February, February 5.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

/s/ Helen Li, Recording Secretary



**Lamond Community Action Group Holiday Stroll**

The Lamond Community Action Group (LCAG) held its annual Community Holiday Stroll on December 10, 2017. Approximately 40 adults and children participated. The "stroll" is an annual event that enables neighbors to kick off the holiday season by partaking in appetizers, main course, and desserts at three different homes in our community. This annual community event promotes neighbors getting to know neighbors through the spirit of holiday cheer and joy while singing spirited holiday songs as they move from home to home. All participants thoroughly enjoyed the event and excitedly look forward to 2018.

**Safety Alert**

Please be extremely cautious while using the crosswalks along South Dakota Avenue NE at Jefferson Street and Ingraham Street. Neighborhood residents are working with District government officials to secure additional signage and lights for these crosswalks. In the meantime, here are a few crosswalk safety tips.

- While pedestrians have the right of way in the crosswalk, make sure all vehicles have yielded before stepping into the crosswalk and crossing the roadway.
- Make sure to look both ways before stepping into the road. You can make your intention to cross known by extending your arm and making eye contact with the drivers. Never assume a driver sees you.
- Stay alert. Never text or play on your phone while walking across the street. Though while in the crosswalk you technically have the right of way, drivers can be unpredictable. If you are distracted by your phone, you may not notice a driver who does not stop.
- Wear bright colored and ideally, reflective clothing during low-light or night conditions.

(Cut here and mail your membership form with payment, or bring to the next meeting)

**Membership Form - October 2017 through September 2018**  
**LAMOND-RIGGS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 60272 - WASHINGTON, DC 20039**

Your membership donation may be **tax-deductible**. LRCA is a 501(c)3 public charity. Please consult with your tax professional.

Salutation	First Name	Last Name	Evening Phone #	Daytime Phone #
1				
Email:				# Children at home:
2				
Email:				
Address:				Washington, DC 20011
<b>I/We volunteer for the following committee(s):</b>			<b>Use code:1=Self, 2=Spouse/Partner, 3=Both, 4=Other</b>	
Senior	Scholarship	Membership		City Services/ Public Safety
Education	Environmental	Communications		Development Task Force
Retail	70th Anniversary Celebration	Newsletter Distribution		Youth Development/ Recreation
Membership & Tax- Deductible Donation:	Individual \$10	Household \$15 (2 adult members)	Corporate \$50	Additional Donation \$
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY	Date Paid: / /	Amount Paid: \$	Pymt Type: CK CA MO CC	Member #: 17-18   18-19   19-20