

# THE HEIGHTS

## Officers re-elected at annual meeting

*Three new members added to the Executive Team.*

Despite the cold and formidable rain, nearly forty (40) 16th Street Neighborhood Association (SSNA) members and their kids turned out to participate in our annual election of officers and holiday party.

The members unanimously re-elected our four officers for a second term - Jack Campbell, Chair; Carrie Beaudreau, Vice-Chair, Cecelia Waldeck, Secretary;

and Susie King, Treasurer. In addition, three new executive team members were elected to the board for 2017: Vikisha Fripp, Pat Lute and Nathan Stokes.

All three have proven to be great advocates for the neighborhood over this past year and have stepped

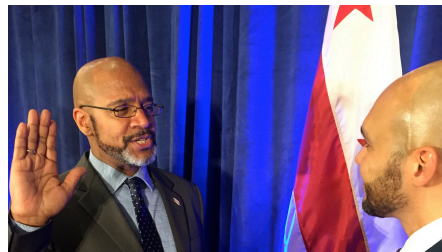
up to the plate to keep us going and growing. **(Meet the new EC members, p. 2)**



## New ANC 4Co3 representative takes office

On November 8, Ulysses Campbell was elected in the new Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) representative for Single Member District (SMD) 4Co3. This January, he took the oath of office as our new advocate before the Commission.

Ulysses, his wife Jacqueline and their children, Ulysses B. and Alyssa, have been residents of the neighborhood since 1995. Ulysses was motivated to seek elected office to ensure that when important issues around zoning, city services, crime and other quality of life issues come before ANC 4C, our neighborhood has effective representation. ANCs consider a wide range of policies and programs affecting



Ulysses Campbell (L) is sworn in as the new ANC commissioner for SMD 4Co3 and represents the SSNA community

neighborhoods, including traffic, parking, recreation, street improvements, liquor licenses, zoning, economic development, police protection, sanitation/trash collection, & the District's annual budget.

## Meet our new ANC representative at the Feb. 7 SSNA Mtg.

Ulysses Campbell is on the agenda for the Feb. 7 meeting of the 16th Street Neighborhood Association. The agenda also includes Councilmember Brandon Todd (Ward-4) and Councilmember Robert White (At-Large). Each will speak about their priorities for 2017 and take questions from attendees. **The**

**meeting place is Simpson-Hamline United Methodist Church, 4501 16th Street, NW, from 7:15 - 8:30 pm.** Please use the Allison Street entrance.

## Mark Your Calendar

- **2/7 - SSNA Monthly Mtg.,** ★  
7:15 - 8:30 pm, Simpson-Hamline Church, 16th & Allison STNW. Councilmembers Todd (Ward-4), White (At-Large) and ANC 4Co3 Commissioner Ulysses Campbell will present their 2017 priorities.
- **3/7 - SSNA Monthly Mtg.,**  
7:15 - 8:30 pm, Simpson-Hamline Church, 16th & Allison STNW.
- **3/31 - SSNA Happy Hour,**  
5:30 - 7:30 pm, Red Derby, 3718 14th STNW.
- **4/4 - SSNA Monthly Mtg.,**  
7:15 - 8:30 pm, Simpson-Hamline Church, 16th & Allison STNW.
- **4/8 - SSNA Annual Easter Egg Hunt,** ★  
11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Upshur Park.

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**SAVE THE DATE:** Councilmember Brandon Todd ((Ward-4), Councilmember Robert White (At-Large) and ANC Commissioner Ulysses Campbell headline the February 7 meeting agenda of the 16th Street Neighborhood Association.

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## Meet the new Executive Team

### Vikisha Fripp:

Vikisha is on her second tour as a Washingtonian having lived here during her residency at Howard University. Vikisha and her three children have lived in 16th Street Heights for the past 4 years. Vikisha is a Plastic Surgeon and serves on the Board of Medicine for DC. Outside of medicine she enjoys crafting with her children and is an avid runner and foodie. She volunteers her time with young women, stressing the importance of self-esteem and self-reliance.

### Pat Lute:

Pat and her husband, Charles Smith, have resided in the neighborhood since 1988. In the past years, several issues such as pop ups, street repair and nuisance properties got her more engaged in community activism. Pat has had a career in DC as an award-winning public relations professional for 20+ years. In the past 12 years she has been an active advocate of the food movement culminating with the opening of the White House Farmers' Market with First Lady Michelle

Obama. Pat is a member of Change Food, Food Tank, Slow Food, the James Beard Foundation and the Chaîne de Rôtisseurs. She is also holds a certificate as a Level II wine specialist from the Wine & Spirits Education Trust.

### Nathan Stokes:

Nathan and his lovely wife Shannon and their dog "Princess Leia" have been 16th Street Heights residents since 2008. Nathan is an attorney with the Department of the Navy where he advises the Marine Corps leadership on environmental, land use and natural resources issues. The Stokeses have been active throughout the resurgence of the SSNA and hope to help the area grow responsibly.

Congratulations to the 2017 Executive Team and thank you to the community for demonstrating their continued support for their own 16th Street Neighborhood Association.

Bios for the entire executive team can be found at: [ssna-dc.org/executive-team](http://ssna-dc.org/executive-team)

## Athena's mediterranean cuisine is 14th street's newest dining choice

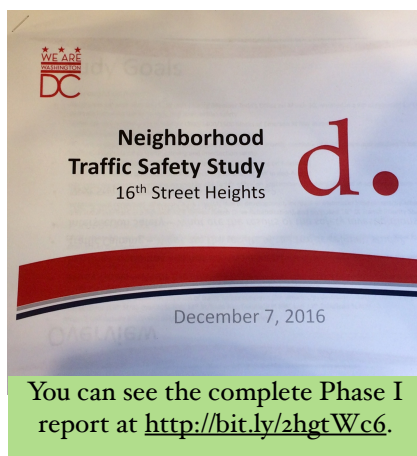


To mark it's grand opening, Athena Grill is offering neighbors a 10% discount through the month of February.

Athena Grill's owner Marco Pasha is not new to the area. Pasha is one of the original investors in neighboring La Villa Pizza. Athena is a reasonably priced greek and mediterranean inspired restaurant that opened in January and includes starters, salads, sandwiches and full entrée platters created by renowned Italian and mediterranean chef Miri Papapolas. All menu items are available for eat-in or take-out.

Athena's represents a new round of neighborhood serving eateries opening on upper 14th. Coming soon to the block are mexican inspired Las Plascitas and a resurgent Johanna's.

## Phase I of DDOT's neighborhood traffic abatement recommendations



DDOT presented the phase I results of the neighborhood requested traffic abatement study at a community meeting on December 7. The presentation was based on a March 30 neighborhood walkthrough with Councilmember Todd, DDOT, SSNA and input from your input at our August Association meeting.

In particular the top concerns for our neighborhood where the dangerous crossing at 16th and Buchanan; the blind intersection at 14th and Allison; and the lack of stop signs on Crittenden between 16th and 14th. The Phase I report (<http://bit.ly/2hgtWc6>) includes immediate and short-term recommendations. Phase II

will include additional data collection/analysis and longer term recommendations and is expected to be completed in late-January. Results will be presented to the community in mid- to late-February. You can contact the reports author, Emily Dalphy ([Emily.dalphy@dc.gov](mailto:Emily.dalphy@dc.gov)), directly with any questions you have about the report. In addition, please be on the lookout for the date and place for the Phase II meeting.

Thanks to DDOT's Emily Dalphy, who did an admirable job gathering data, observing in person the areas of concern and taking community input into the formulation of possible remedies.

## New RF-1 zoning regulations took effect in September

### *How do they affect our neighborhood?*

The city's new zoning regulations, which result from a major rewrite of the 1958 Zoning Regulations and Map, became effective on September 6, 2016. You can find the interactive new zoning Map at [www.dcoz.dc.gov](http://www.dcoz.dc.gov) and the formal regulations at [www.dcregs.dc.gov](http://www.dcregs.dc.gov).

Our neighborhood is now zoned RF-1, which is for moderate density neighborhoods, comprised primarily of attached row residences on small lots. The purpose of the RF-1 regulations is to encourage development of flats or residences with two dwelling units on existing or newly recorded lots, created by subdividing a larger residential lot.

Generally, property owners can convert a single-family residence into two dwelling units or convert an accessory unit, such as a garage, into a

second dwelling unit without obtaining approval from the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) (i.e., matter-of-right development). The construction of *new* apartment buildings (i.e., residences with three or more units) is prohibited; however, the regulations continue to allow for the conversion of buildings built prior to May 12, 1958 into apartment buildings. To some neighbors, there is not much difference between building a new apartment building and converting an older building into an apartment building. However, since September 2015, BZA must approve any conversions of older residential buildings into apartment buildings after considering specified impacts on adjacent properties and their residents.

Most of the size limitations for residential buildings in our

neighborhood remain the same as before the rewrite, i.e., three stories with a height limit of 35 feet, except for converted apartment buildings or newly-built adjacent row residences of three or more, which have a height limit of 40 feet; rear yards with a minimum depth of 20 feet; and all structures, including carports, must not cover more than 60% of the lot. However, the new regulations lower the minimum width of required side yards from 8 to 5 feet. Additionally, the new regulations reduce by 50% the parking requirements for the non-residential buildings along the commercial strip on the west side of 14<sup>th</sup> St. NW between Buchanan and Decatur Streets NW. These blocks are subject to MU-3 zoning regulations.

**For more information, contact Cecelia at [cwald4517@gmail.com](mailto:cwald4517@gmail.com).**

## Are you ready for the snow?

### *What you need to do to keep our walkways safe and avoid fines*

It's the snow season. Who knows how much we will get this year? Whatever the amount, we all have responsibilities to keep the walkways, curb cuts and steps clear of snow and safe for all.

Within eight (8) hours of daylight after a snow event ends, residential and commercial property owners are required under DC law to remove snow from sidewalks around their properties. Property owners (or in the case of rental tenants assigned the task in their rental agreement) may be fined \$25 for not clearing snow/ice within

this timeframe. More importantly, it's the neighborly thing to do. Keeping your part of the public walkway clear makes it easier for all, including the youngest and oldest of our neighbors to get around safely.

The elderly and residents with disabilities may apply for an exemption from the shoveling requirement by calling 311 to apply. They can also contact their block captain or a member of the SSNA Executive team for help clearing their walkway. Go to [ssna-dc.org](http://ssna-dc.org) to find your block captain.



The neglected walkways on upper 14th Street last January, more than 48 hours after the snow storm ended, made it very hazardous and nearly impossible to navigate the street safely.

## The 2017 meeting calendar of the 16th Street Neighborhood Association

The 16th Street Neighborhood Association (SSNA) meets on the first Tuesday of each month (except where otherwise noted below) at Simpson-Hamline United Methodist Church, 4501 16th Street NW (16th and Allison Streets). For more information on SSNA activities and events, like us on Facebook at: (<https://www.facebook.com/ssna.dc>)

### Our 2017 meeting dates:

- **January** (No meeting)
- **February 7**
- **March 7**
- **April 4**
- **May 2**
- **June 6**
- **July** (No meeting)
- **August 1**
- **September 11** (2nd Tuesday, please note exception)
- **October 3**
- **November 14** (2nd Tuesday, please note exception)
- **December 5**

## For Your Information

- **Annual Visitors Parking Pass (VPP):** The annual VPP used to be automatically sent to each home, now you must go online at [www.vpp.dc.gov/vpp](http://www.vpp.dc.gov/vpp) to apply for the pass. Or you can call 311 or DDOT's call center at (202) 671-2700.
- **Christmas Tree and Fall Leaf Collection:** After January 27, Christmas trees and bagged leaves will be collected with the regular weekly trash pick up, space permitting.
- **Residential Street Cleaning:** Residential street cleaning begins anew the beginning of March and continues through Oct. 31. DPW sweepers will clean residential streets at the posted days and times. Be sure to check your street for the cleaning times and adjust accordingly. A \$45 ticket may be issued for failure to comply.
- **Bulk Trash Collection:** Large and bulky items cannot be put out with the regular trash. DPW collects these items by appointment only. Call 311 to make an appointment for pick up. Or, take items to the Ft. Totten Transfer Station at 4900 John F. McCormack Drive, NE, M-F: 1 - 5 pm; Sat: 8 am - 3 pm.
- **Join the SSNA Listserv:** Be in the know in real time, meet your neighbors, share info on contractors/handyman, find a home for that white elephant gift. To join, go to [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com). Under "Groups" search for "16thStNA". Then, just send an email request to join the listserv to: [16thstna-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:16thstna-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). Please include your full name and street address.

## The 2017 Easter Egg Hunt is April 8 - Save the date



A steady cold rain could not spoil the 2016 Easter Egg Hunt, as dozens showed up to take part in the fun.

Don't miss the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Upshur Park, April 8, 11 am - 12 noon. Each year, kids of all ages and their parents turn out in droves for this great family event. Mark your calendars and start making those Easter baskets!

Contact Carrie Beaudreau ([carriellenc@gmail.com](mailto:carriellenc@gmail.com)) to volunteer to help organize this year's event.

### The SSNA Executive Team

#### Officers:

Chair: Jack Campbell, [jackhcampbell@hotmail.com](mailto:jackhcampbell@hotmail.com)

Vice-Chair: Carriellen Beaudreau, [carriellenc@gmail.com](mailto:carriellenc@gmail.com)

Secretary: Cecelia Waldeck, [cwald4517@gmail.com](mailto:cwald4517@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Susie King, [teeniemommy@msn.com](mailto:teeniemommy@msn.com)

#### Non-Officers:

Pat Lute, [lutej@gmail.com](mailto:lutej@gmail.com)

Nathan Stokes, [stokes.nathan@gmail.com](mailto:stokes.nathan@gmail.com)

Vikisha Fripp, [vikisha@yahoo.com](mailto:vikisha@yahoo.com)

**For more information about the 16th Street Neighborhood Association, go to our website at: [ssna-dc.org](http://ssna-dc.org).**