



The Penn Brancher

Newsletter Update for the Penn Branch Citizens Civic Association

Next Meeting: Holiday Cheers Tuesday, December 13, 7:00 PM

in the **Pennsylvania Baptist Church** basement community room, rear parking area

Holiday Cheer Celebration

As always, our annual holiday celebration will be held on Tuesday, December 13, at 7:00 pm. Hopefully, you will be able to join us as we celebrate the holiday season. Feel free to make a monetary donation or to bring your favorite dish or dessert. Our wonderful hospitality chair, Janet Strickland, will provide a set holiday menu. For the past two years, the entertainment was such a success; we have decided to again provide holiday music. If you have questions or would like to make a donation, please reach out to us at:

info@pennbranchdc.org.

Penn Branch Shopping Center and Development in Our Community

As we mentioned in our last newsletter, Penn Branch Shopping Center was sold in August to Jair Lynch Real Estate Partners. The new owners are carefully assessing the state of the center and surrounding areas, and no immediate changes are planned for Penn Branch Shopping Center at this time. However, we are confident that once changes are made, everyone will be pleased. We will also take an active role in working with the next councilman elect Vincent Gray, ANCs, and others to ensure that our community has the retail shops, businesses, restaurants and the sensible growth occurring in other parts of the city.

Thanks to all of you who attended our PBCCA candidate forum last month. Congrats to Councilman Elect Vincent Gray; At-Large Councilman Robert White and Ward 7 State Board of Education Karen Williams who all addressed the Penn Branch Citizens Civic Association.

Membership – We have officially launched our 2016-17-membership drive. Your membership and donations will help support this community! The membership fee is a small amount that ensures our community stays strong. Use your membership card to obtain discounts at participating local businesses. Please refer to the pennbranchdc.org website for updated discount information. As a reminder the PBCCA is a non-profit 501c3 organization. **You can now pay your membership online at www.pennbranchdc.org**

3rd Annual Highwood Drive Wood Splitting Day

If you haven't noticed, many of our neighbors make efficient use of their fireplaces in the winter. When an old tree is removed, Quentin Driskell, Stan Benton and Bobbie Chandler are first on site and together they chop wood for their fireplaces. It is hard work, but there is nothing like the reduced heating bills, the smell of wood burning in the winter, and the warm glow of the flame.



Crime Never Takes a Holiday!

Although we are a fairly low-crime community, recently there have been reports of thefts in and around Penn Branch. An armed robbery was reported in early December on Highwood Drive. On Carpenter Street, an attempted break-in was reported and delivered packages were stolen from another residence. Several residents have installed security cameras and received rebates through the D.C. Security Camera Program. We are urging Penn Branch residents to purchase security cameras. The cameras are a deterrent, they aid in catching criminals. When residents exercise security precautions, by working with MPD, it provides another layer of security. Remember to call 911 if you see anything suspicious. For security camera rebates, security.cameras@dc.gov or 202-727-5124. If you need information about installers, send an email to info@pennbranch.org. You can also find more information on our website www.pennbranchdc.org.

Marla Dean - New PBCCA Education Chair

Marla Dean, Ed.D., has been selected as the new chairwoman of the PBCCA Education Committee. Dean replaces former chair, Darryl Baker, who relocated to Maryland. Dean just accepted a position as the Executive Director/CEO for Bright Beginnings, LLC, which is a nonprofit that runs schools for homeless children and supports their parents in ending homelessness. "I believe that as a community we need to take an active role in what happens East of the River." She noted, "I am eager to work closely with area community associations, State Board of Education Representatives and other groups to make a difference."



Plans for 2017

Plans are underway for a busy PBCCA 2017. Next year we are planning a community picnic; yard sale, and community dinner dance -- so stay tuned! If you are interested in working on a committee, or have other suggestions, please email us at info@pennbranchdc.org.

Holiday Decorations at 9-11 Memorial Park

On behalf of the Public Works Committee thanks to everyone who donated and helped decorate the park for the Holidays. We appreciate the festive look.

Make an end of the Year Contribution

Don't forget PBCCA is a nonprofit. You can make an end of the year contribution to support your association.

A special thank you to Joan McKenzie for her support! A special thank you to all of the committee chairs who work so hard to help make Penn Branch a strong community!

We'll see you at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, December 13, 2016. Don't forget to pay your membership if you have not already done so. Thanks for your community support! Email us at: info@pennbranchdc.org

www.pennbranchdc.org



@pennbranchdc



pennbranchdc