

President's Corner

Change is Happening



Stan Benton, PBCA President

This is a new year in many different ways. Our Association has a new name, with a new board operating under newly updated by-laws. And despite the recent horrific actions that happened on the Capitol, we will even have a new President of the United States inaugurated into office later this month Change is happening.

As the new PBCA President, I thank the officers and others in the previous administration for their hard work and commitment over the past two years. 2020 will be a year to remember. Last year brought on a pandemic, the presidential election, and social protests that challenged all of us. However, we have proved resilient as a community, and many neighbors reached out to help others as we all quarantined in place. In the middle of all of the challenges, we still managed to make significant updates to our by-laws to strengthen our organization and community and align us with best practices. After years of videoing our meetings so that those unable to attend could watch them online, I volunteered to become Block Captain Chair. After some serious thought, I ran for President along with a slate of well-qualified individuals with a history of civic and community involvement.

After productive discussions between past and present PBCA Exec Officers and reviewing input from our members, the new board has decided on several goals we would like to achieve including, increasing our membership, decreasing the morning cut-through traffic from Pennsylvania Avenue and making sure our community's voice is heard especially when it comes to economic development in the area.

To help achieve these goals we need you: We are looking for volunteers to head up a variety of our committees, including my old position of Block Captain Chairperson. Please see the list of committees listed in this newsletter and apply. We've proven to be resilient in the face of many challenges, and by working together, we can make this year a better one. We are looking forward to working with you.

Again, Happy New Year, and may 2021 and beyond be amazing.

Stan Benton,
PBCA President



A Fresh Start

Meet the new PBCA Executive Board

Our new executive board members were officially sworn in by ANC 7B representative D.L. Humphrey during the final Penn Branch Community Association (PBCA) meeting of 2020. This is our largest incoming cohort, comprised of new and past board members, under the rules of our newly-adopted association bylaws.

Our incoming executive board members are (from top left): **Stan Benton**, President; **Kyle Murphy**, 1st Vice President; **Dr. Cicily Hampton**, 2nd Vice President; **Mohammed Williams**, Treasurer; **Paul Grant**, Communications Director; **Marie Fritz**, Recording Secretary; and **Natiya Curtis**, Parliamentarian.

To read their full bios and our updated bylaws, visit:
www.pennbranchdc.org



Read Our Official Statement Regarding This Week's Violence at the U.S. Capitol

<http://www.pennbranchdc.org/uscapitolinsurrection>



Health & Wellness During COVID-19

Join us for our next Penn Branch Community Association General Body Meeting. Panelists will discuss healthy tips for surviving and thriving in 'the new normal'

Confirmed Panelist:



Dr. Jan Burton, MD
Pediatrician



Dr. Charles W. Curtis, PhD
Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Lisa Fitzpatrick, MD
Infectious Disease Physician

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, JANUARY 12th @ 7:00PM

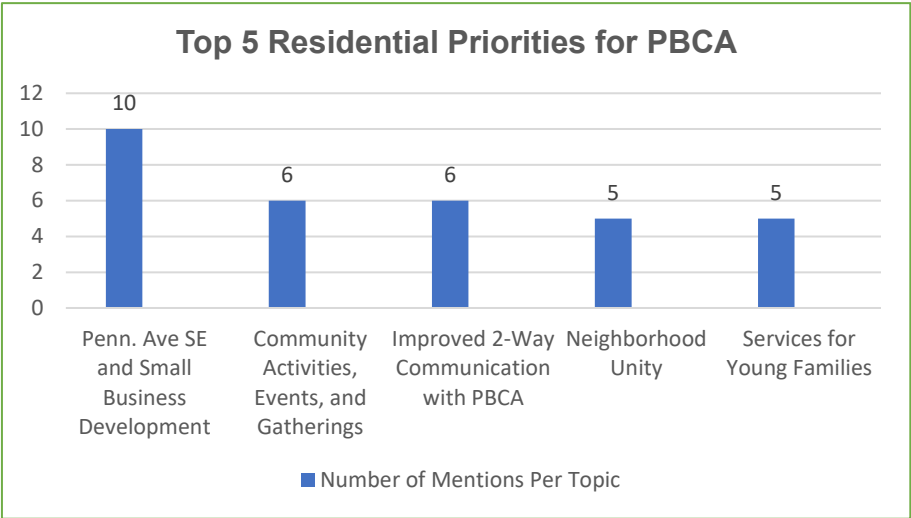
Zoom LINK: <https://bit.ly/39d90vj> ; MEETING ID: 996 5308 2239

PASSCODE: 560821 ; DIAL-IN #: 301-715-8592

Top Five Concerns of Penn Branchers

Summary of results from our 2020 Officer Election and Bylaws Vote Surveys

We asked what issues you wanted your community association to prioritize. Here are the top five topic with the most mentions. Seventy-eight Penn Branch residents shared thirty-one topics and the incoming PBCA executive board is working to build our agenda around your concerns. The full summary of both surveys will be posted on our web site soon.



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Volunteers Needed for PBCA Committees

Send your email to info@pennbranchdc.org to inquire about serving on one of our following committees:

- Membership
- Block Captains
- Legislative
- Public Works
- Hospitality
- Events
- Benevolence
- Nominating / Leadership Development



Community Spotlight

Let’s Welcome Our New Neighbors:

- **Tony & JoAnne Lipari and Family** on Texas Avenue SE

Recent Births & Deaths:

We are sad to report the passing of two long-time Penn Branch residents:

- **Robert “Bobbie” Chandler, Jr.** passed away on January 5th after a long illness. Bobby grew up in Penn Branch and returned to live in our neighborhood two years ago. He and his family have been very active and dedicated supporters of our association and community.
- On December 30th, **Mr. Charles G. Dorsey, Sr.** of Highwood Drive passed away. Mr. Dorsey and his wife Joe have been residents of Penn Branch for over 40 years. In addition to being actively involved in the community, Mr. Dorsey was known for knocking on neighbors' doors every New Year's morning with a hug and Happy New Year greeting. This year, his son, Charles Jr., knocked on doors and said he knows his father would want the tradition to continue.



Long-time Penn Branch residents Bobbie Chandler, Jr and his sister Jeanarta McEachron

Heads-Up: Stay Up-To-Date on the COVID-19 Vaccine
<https://coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccinatedc>

www.pennbranchdc.org

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

PBCA Virtual Community Meeting
January 12th @ 7:00pm
Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/39d90vj>
Meeting ID: 996 5308 2239
Passcode: 560821
Dial-in: 1-301-715-8592

MLK, Jr. National Day of Service
January 18th

We encourage everyone to volunteer on this day to improve the community.

PBCA Virtual Community Meeting
February 9th @ 7:00pm

Join us for our February community association meeting.

This publication is being delivered to you by your local PBCCA Block Captain.

Visit www.pennbranchdc.org for a listing of Block Captains for the Penn Branch Community.