

# Lamond-Riggs Citizens Association Newsletter

"A Community Newsletter" | PO Box 60272, Washington, DC 20039

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings Neighbors,

Spring has arrived, bringing with it a renewed sense of energy, pride, and possibility across our neighborhood. As the days grow longer and the flowers begin to bloom, so too does our commitment to keeping Lamond-Riggs vibrant, welcoming, and beautiful.

In the spirit of the season, beautification efforts will be underway throughout our community. I encourage you to take part in the Mayor's Spring Clean-Up Campaign—a wonderful opportunity to come together, refresh our shared spaces, and show pride in where we live. Our ANC clean teams are also continuing to do outstanding work right here in Lamond-Riggs. If you're looking to get involved, I invite you to connect with your ANC and join these dedicated neighbors in making a visible difference.

There is so much to look forward to in the months ahead! From the return of the Parks Main Street Jazz Series to our beloved Riggs Park Day, and the celebration of our incredible students at the LRCA Annual Scholarship event—our community calendar is filled with moments that bring us together in joy, celebration, and purpose.

As we embrace this season of renewal, let us remember: *"Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's celebrate.'" May we continue to celebrate one another, our shared spaces, and the strength of our community.*

With gratitude and pride,

**Dr. Shawaan Robinson**

President, Lamond-Riggs Citizens Association

**ATTEND THE APRIL LRCA GENERAL BODY MEETING on  
Monday, April 6, 2026 from**

**6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. Doors open at 5:45 PM**

**Attend IN PERSON at the Lillian J. Huff Neighborhood Library,  
Meeting Room 1**

**5401 South Dakota Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20011**

## April 2026 Meeting Agenda

- Welcome/Invocation
- Officers Report, Minutes, Treasurer Report
- Updates from Elected Officials & PSA
- UDC-Bertie Backus Update
- Words from Council Members Janeese Lewis George and Zachary Parker
- Riggs Park Day Updates

SHAWAAN ROBINSON  
PRESIDENT

LAVERNE JOHNSON  
1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

JULIA LARSEN  
2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

ELIZABETH PAVLICK  
TREASURER

RECORDING SECRETARY  
OPEN

EDGAR ALLEN SHEPPARD  
PARLIAMENTARIAN

TRUSTEES  
VANDALIA JOYNER-TAYLOR  
DARLENE LAWRENCE  
DANIELLE LEWIS WRIGHT  
THEODORE NGATCHOU  
BLAKE REICHMUTH  
KEITH SELLARS  
LINDA WITHERSPOON

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OUR ANC COMMISSIONERS  
ANC 4B07  
MICHAEL COHEN  
(202) 656-0452

ANC 4B08  
GARRETT MOORE  
(202) 607-9412

ANC 4B09  
DANIELLE GEONG  
(510) 541-8770

ANC 4B10  
JININ BERRY  
(240) 525-7033

ANC 5A01  
KEITH SELLARS  
[5A01@ANC.DC.GOV](mailto:5A01@ANC.DC.GOV)

ANC 5A02  
TIMOTHY THOMAS  
[5A02@ANC.DC.GOV](mailto:5A02@ANC.DC.GOV)

ANC 5A09  
SHELAGH BOCOUM  
[5A09@ANC.DC.GOV](mailto:5A09@ANC.DC.GOV)

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## NEWS YOU CAN USE!

### What is Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)?

RCV is a voting system where voters rank candidates in order of preference (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.). It will begin in DC starting with the **June 2026 Primary Election** for races with **3 or more candidates**.

### How It Works

Your **1st choice vote counts first**.

If no candidate gets a majority, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated. Your vote is then transferred to your **next ranked candidate**. This continues until a candidate wins a majority (or required number of winners is reached).

### Key Points for Voters

You can rank **up to 5 candidates** (or fewer if you choose). You are **not required** to rank more than one. Ranking additional candidates **does NOT hurt your first choice**. You still only have **one vote per race**.

### Where RCV is Used

RCV applies to major DC elections, including:

- President & Vice President
- Mayor
- City Council
- Attorney General
- U.S. Senate & House
- State Board of Education
- Advisory Neighborhood Commission

### Why DC Adopted RCV

- Approved by voters in **2024 ballot initiative**
- Funded in the **FY2026 budget**
- Designed to ensure winners have **broader voter support**

### Ballot Tips

- Rank candidates in order (1, 2, 3...).
- Don't skip numbers or rank the same candidate twice.
- You can stop ranking anytime.

### Other Important Notes

- Ties are extremely rare and decided by **coin flip** if needed.
- Final results may take longer because **mail-in ballots are accepted up to 10 days after Election Day**.

Learn more at the **May 4, 2026 LRCA meeting**.

## UDC- Bertie Backus Campus

UDC has engaged a consultant to assess the feasibility of relocating the community college, with potential sites including the Van Ness campus and other locations across the city. During a recent oversight hearing, President Edington shared that the 2023–2033 campus plan is currently on hold after capital funding for Phase 1 was withdrawn. He indicated a desire to develop world-class facilities and suggested that may not be achievable at the Lamond-Riggs campus, signaling a strong consideration of relocation. An update will be shared at the April LRCA meeting.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### From Council Member Lewis-George's Office (Ward 4)

Sign up for Councilmember Lewis-George's electronic community newsletter and receive the latest updates here:

<https://bit.ly/Ward4newsletter>.

### From Council Member Parker's Office (Ward 5)

#### The Ward 5 Wave

This weekly podcast will aim to give you a quick, 10-minute or less overview of what's highlighted in the newsletter each week. You can listen in on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Overcast.

Sign up for Councilmember Parker's community e-newsletter & receive the latest updates here: <https://bit.ly/Ward5newsletter>.

## COMMUNITY BLOG

Be sure to check out the blog **Next Stop...Riggs Park** for news and commentary about Riggs Park and surrounding communities.

<https://nextstopriggspark.com/>

**Be a neighborhood connector! Help us keep Lamond-Riggs informed, engaged, and in the know—one block at a time. Join our newsletter distribution team by contacting Dr. Darlene Lawrence at [darlene@lrcadc.org](mailto:darlene@lrcadc.org)**

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## MARCH 2026 MEETING MINUTES—March 2, 2026

Welcome by Vice Presidents LaVerne Johnson and Julia Larsen.

### General Business

- February meeting minutes were approved and entered into the record (Laverne).

### Treasurer’s Report

LRCA Financial Statement March 2026	
<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT</b>	Thru 28 February 2026
<b>Beg. Balance:</b>	\$ 10,173.36
<b>Deposits:</b>	\$ 14.26
<b>Expenses</b>	\$ 4,426.60
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	\$ 5,761.02

SCHOLARSHIP FUND	
<b>Beg. Balance:</b>	\$ 207.98
<b>Interest Earned:</b>	\$ -
<b>Deposits:</b>	\$ -
<b>Withdrawals:</b>	\$ -
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	\$ 207.98

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT	
	6/13/2025
<b>Beg. Balance:</b>	\$ 36,680.87
<b>Interest Earned:</b>	\$ 189.98
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	\$ 36,870.85

### Ward 5 Updates (Office of Councilmember Zachary Parker)

- Ward 5 Awards nominations closed March 2
- Awards Ceremony: April 1 at Ivy City Smokehouse
- DC Performance Oversight feedback open through March 12 (via DC.gov)

### ANC 5A01 Updates (Keith Sellars)

- National Park Service shared updates on Fort Circle Park
- Monthly community clean-ups continue (1st Saturday of each month)
- Rodent concerns: report via 311
- UDC 9/11 Memorial next meeting: March 4
- Alley safety reminder: 15 mph speed limit
- Urban Forestry planted 50+ trees in the community
- Upcoming meeting to feature Councilmember Parker and outreach to Councilmember Lewis-George

### ANC 4B09 Updates (Danielle Geong)

- DC School Lottery closed March 3
- DPR Aquatics registration open; other programs opened March 4

- UDC Farmers Market reopens April 3
- DDOT Projects:
  - Nicholson Street sidewalk repaving (March 9–30)
  - Sidewalk gap closures (4th Street & Kennedy Street)
- Free tax assistance available at Lamond Library (Mondays & Wednesdays, 1–4 PM)
- Riggs Field community hours are being scheduled

### Development Task Force & Community Updates

#### Local Business Spotlights (Parks Main Street)

- Happy Violet DC (Salon) – Now open
- DC Dental Studio – Now open
- Expansion of LRCA website to feature local businesses and events

#### Community Events

- Main Street Jazz Series
- Fridays at Ft. Totten
- Riggs Park Crawl
- Art All Night

#### Branding & Triangle Park Updates

- Community branding presentation shared; next steps include signage, banners, and branded elements (e.g., trash cans, light poles)
- Triangle Park (South Dakota & Riggs) planning update:
  - Original budget: \$337,500
  - Additional ~\$600K requested and approved (pending status)

#### LRCA Scholarship Timeline

- Announcement: April (via website and listserv)
- Applications Due: May 15
- Winners Announced: June 1 (End-of-Year LRCA Event)

#### Guest Presentation: Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)

- Overview of new voting process shared by DC Board of Elections
- Tutorial and additional resources will be available on the LRCA website
- Potential voter registration drive under consideration

#### Community Concerns & Reminders

- Report potholes and alley issues through 311 (DDOT prioritization)
- Stay connected via the LRCA listserv and website for updates

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## Community Events

- ❖ **DC Dental Studio** is now open! Dr. Jasmine Marshall operates a general dentistry practice at **430 Galloway Street**.
- ❖ **Main Street Jazz Series** will begin in April- August (Times to be announced)
- ❖ **Mayor Muriel Bowser and the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS)**, in partnership with the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Mayor's Office of Community Affairs (MOCA), invite you to participate in the 10th Annual Mayor Bowser Spring Cleanup. Register at [Mayor Muriel Bowser's 10th Annual Spring Cleanup Tickets, Saturday, Apr 25 at 10 am | Eventbrite](#)

## Community Food Giveaway

The **Feed My People Food Ministry** continues to support our community through its **monthly food giveaway**, held **every third Saturday** at the Riggs-LaSalle Recreation Center, 11:00 am. Neighbors in need are encouraged to attend and share this resource with others who may benefit. Thank you to Feed My People Food Ministry for their continued service and commitment to our community.

## Save the Date: Riggs Park Day

Mark your calendars! **Riggs Park Day** is happening on **Saturday, May 30, 2026, from 12:00–4:00 PM**. Join neighbors, families, and community partners for a fun-filled afternoon celebrating all that makes Riggs Park special. More details coming soon—save the date!

Join the [LRCA Listserv \(Google Group Broadcast Email List\)](#) (<https://groups.google.com/u/1/g/lamond-riggs-community>) to receive weekly updates.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM | 2025 - 2026

Send completed form w/payment to: 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	
I/We volunteer for the following committee(s):			Use code:1=Self, 2=Spouse/Partner, 3=Both, 4=Other		
Senior	Scholarship	Membership	City Services/Public Safety	Education	Youth Development/Recreation
Budget/Audit Bereavement	Nominating Health	Communications	Development Task Force	Newsletter Distribution	Bylaws
*Tax-deductible Donation:	Individual \$15	Household \$20 (2 adult members)	Corporate \$50	Extra Donation of \$_____ to Scholarship Fund. If other use, please specify	
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	Date Paid: / /	Amount Paid: \$	Pymt Type: CK CA MO CC	Member#	25-26