

Lamond-Riggs Citizens Association Newsletter

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

LAVERNE JOHNSON
PRESIDENT

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
OPEN

JULIA LARSEN
2ND VICE PRESIDENT

TREASURER
OPEN

RECORDING SECRETARY
OPEN

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DARLENE LAWRENCE
DANIELLE LEWIS WRIGHT
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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings Lamond-Riggs Community,

Thank you and welcome to the LRCA 2026-2027 program year. I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. LRCA was busy over the summer reviewing and planning for Riggs Park signage as part of the Development Task Force. We also partnered with the Friends of Riggs-LaSalle Recreation to host the Annual Backpack and school supply giveaway on August 22.

As we have kicked off our new program year, we have a busy program season going forward, and we extend our sincere gratitude to all of our neighbors for your continued engagement, and support. Your active participation in LRCA is vital to its continued success. We look forward to working with you to improve our Lamond-Riggs community.

Please plan to join us for our next LRCA General Body Meeting. We have invited all the 2026 ANC candidates that oversee SMDs within the LRCA boundaries. The candidates will be able to introduce themselves to the community and share their vision for their SMD ahead of the General Election, on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

Warm Regards,

LaVerne Johnson
President, Lamond-Riggs Citizens Association

**ATTEND THE NOVEMBER LRCA GENERAL BODY MEETING Virtually on
Monday, November 2, 2026, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.**

*The library meeting room will be unavailable due to the General Election on Tuesday,
November 3, 2026. The library will be a polling center.*

To join our meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82345746107?pwd=RknDVMe4zzTxXtlzO4Nqc5ciibxaht.1>

Meeting ID: 823 4574 6107

Passcode: 736246

Mobile: 13052241968 or 13092053325 with the Meeting ID and Passcode

November 2026 Meeting Agenda

- Welcome/Invocation/Call to Order
- Officers Report, Minutes, Treasurer Report
- Updates from Elected Officials
- ANC 2026 Candidates

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NEWS YOU CAN USE!

LaSalle Backus Education Campus

Dr. Simone Wilkinson has assumed her position as principal of the school. She joined us for the October meeting to introduce herself. She's worked at other schools within Ward 4 and across the city and has been a part of DCPS for a number of years. Dr. Wilkinson shared that the school is in a transition year. In June of 2027, the school will be temporarily moving to the Sharpe Health School building on 13th Street NW (across from Roosevelt High School) as the LaSalle Backus Campus will undergo a modernization project. They are actively working on the redesign which will be completed for the campus reopening in August, 2029. The 3-5 year vision is being finalized, but Dr. Wilkinson is still very focused on academics. She shared that the school will receive an award at the end of October for improved performance following a state assessment. She will be looking for ways to engage with the community, and continue to bring joy to the school. For anyone interested in supporting the school, volunteering, or having suggestions on the school redesign, she wants to hear from you. You can reach out to her at DCPS.

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

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OCTOBER 2026 MEETING MINUTES—October 5, 2026

Welcome by LaVerne Johnson, LRCA President

Treasurer's Report

LRCA Financial Statement

CHECKING ACCOUNT	
Beg. Balance:	\$ 4,232.93
Deposits:	\$ 11,269.67
Expenses	\$ 13,280.23
Ending Balance:	\$ 2,222.37
SAVINGS ACCOUNT	
Beg. Balance:	\$ 232.98
Interest Earned:	\$.40 -
Deposits:	\$ 8,155.00
Withdrawals:	\$ 1,500.00
Ending Balance:	\$ 6,888.38
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT	
	6/18/2027
Beg. Balance:	\$ 36,971.06
Deposits:	\$ 1,500.00
Interest Earned:	\$ 404.16 -
Withdrawals:	\$ 10,000.00
Ending Balance:	\$ 28,875.22

Following the Treasurer's report, questions were raised about the balance of the EYA/LRCA CBA funds and how the money was spent. It was explained that after the initial funds that were approved for distribution were paid out by EYA, the remaining funds which were held by the Parks Main Street were turned over for management to the center for Non-Profit Advancement. When this was done in 2025, the information was shared with the General Body. The Executive Board will work with the Center to have them attend a future meeting and provide an update on the funds. Additionally, the Development Task Force will provide an update on the Riggs Park signage.

DCPL Updates – Carmel Henry

The new fiscal year kicked off October 1, 2026. The library held their Fall Open House on October 22 where they shared information on the library and the library budget was made available. Friends of Lamond-Riggs Library and the DCBOE were on hand at the open house. The library will be a polling site on Tuesday, November 3, 2026. Even though the library will be a polling site on election day, it is not an early voting site or a ballot drop-off site. Do not drop off mail ballots at the library or in the library book drop. To find a list of vote centers and mail ballot drop boxes, check your voter registration guide or go <https://www.dcboe.org/elections/2026-elections>

Partnering with several organizations including LRCA, FORLR, Friends of Lamond-Riggs Library, Greater Washington Urban League, Parks Main Street, NAACP, and others. The annual winter challenge is to encourage reading and promote literacy. The event include health and wellness screenings. The goal is to provide winter coats, gloves, and hats for those in need. The library is looking for gently used coats and accessories. If you have any to donate, you can drop them off at the library beginning the week of November 22. Financial donations have to be made to the Friends of Lamond-Riggs Library. <https://www.dclibraryfriends.org/Lamond-Riggs> or contact Robert Oliver, President, Friends of Lamond-Riggs Library.

LRCA members then received updates from elected officials regarding neighborhood efforts, programs, city initiatives, and upcoming community events.

Andrianna Lovelace from Councilmember Zachary Parker's office shared information about Ward 5 events. She thanked those who attended Ward 5 week and Ward 5 day at Turkey Thicket. DDOT is finally completing the resurfacing of the Metropolitan Branch Trail (MBT). Road from Brookland Metro Station to Ft. Totten Transfer station will be resurfaced. The work began October 5, so the road will be closed until the first week of November. The date could be pushed out due to weather.

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Barbara Rogers, Community Engagement Director from Councilmember Lewis-George's office provided updates for Ward 4. Busy time for the council to pass as they seek to pass remaining bills before they die in council period 2026 ending in December. Councilmember Lewis-George introduced the Public Trust in Utility Regulation Act to give city residents a clear picture of what they are paying, and to also give the Council and regulators the information needed to hold the utility companies accountable. During recent public hearings, the councilmember testified about the bill's requirement for utility companies seeking rate increases to disclose details about proposed projects, along with regular audits of the utilities' spending. The committee on Transportation and Environment voted to advance the automatic enrollment for utilities affordable program act. This bill would allow the city to use existing enrollment in programs such as SNAP, WIC, Medicaid, or TANF to identify households who are eligible for electric, gas, and water assistance.

Road construction through Grant Circle continues through November.

Attract Rats – DC DOH has an interactive dashboard to provide updates on rodent problems that persists throughout the city. We all have to do our part to combat the problem. If rats have eaten through your trashcan, you can get a replacement trashcan. You must contact DC311 and provide your trash can's ID number along with a picture of the rodent damage. If you require assistance, please reach out to Barbara.

If you need a yard inspection, you can contact DC311 and request an inspection. If you want to be present, inform them when submitting your request.

For utilities, the LIHEAP program has been funded and is here to help with utility bills. The program opened on October 20. You must go to the DOEE website to complete your application.

Parks Main Street – Edwin Washington

Art All Night was a success. Thanks to all who attended. They had over 600 people who came throughout the day.

Main Street Jazz series – Nearly 400 attendees over five sessions during the season. They will resume in April 2027.

DC Fray and Cafritz partnership for the Fridays at Ft. Totten Riggs Park Concert series turned out well. Ten concerts were scheduled, however, five were canceled due to weather or air quality. All but one was rescheduled. Parks Main Street will be soliciting feedback on potential talent to support next year.

Parks Main Street continues to work with DTF on getting retail in the Modern. There have been some delays due to contracts, build-out issues, and rents. Future retailers will include Menomale Pizza and Sky Zone.

Gearing up for fall events:

Strong Business Saturday – November 29

Looking into holiday bazaar

Thomas Blanton – LCAG TF being assembled to address property at 6000 New Hampshire Ave to get it developed. Property is not being maintained and the community is looking to get the property developed.

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Community Events

Community Library & Local Events

Library Updates

- **November:** Library will serve as a polling precinct
- **December 1:** Cocoa, Crafts, and Community

UDC Farmer's Market

- Every Friday | **4:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Stay engaged and take advantage of these great community offerings!

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: Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway

Mark your calendars! **Annual Turkey Giveaway** is happening on **Saturday, November 21, 2026, from 11:00–2:00 PM**.

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

Membership Form - July 2026 - June 2027

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	Nominating	Communications	Development Task Force	Newsletter Distribution	Bylaws
Bereavement	Health				
*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#	26-27