



# The Hillcrest Newsletter



*The ideal community!*

**JANUARY 2013**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING**

PLACE: HILLCREST RECREATION CENTER  
32<sup>ND</sup> AND DENVER ST. SE  
TIME: Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup> from 10am to Noon

### **FRIENDS OF FRANCIS A. GREGORY LIBRARY MEETING**

Place: Francis Gregory Library  
3660 Alabama Ave., SE  
TIME: 1st Monday of the month at 7pm

### **PSA 606 POLICE COMMUNITY MEETING**

Place: EAST WASHINGTON HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH  
2200 BRANCH AVE, SE  
TIME: January 16, from 7pm – 9pm

### **ANC 7B MONTHLY MEETING**

PLACE: RYLAND METHODIST CHURCH, 3200 S ST., SE  
TIME: THURSDAY, January 17, 7pm – 9pm

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **President Obama's Inauguration**

The Presidential Inauguration will be held in Washington DC on Monday, January 21, 2013. A week of festivities will include the Presidential Swearing-in Ceremony, Inaugural Address, Inaugural Parade and numerous inaugural balls/galas honoring the elected U.S. President.

### **Randle Highlands' Annual Science Fair**

1650 30th St Se. Washington, DC 20020  
Time: Thursday, January 24, 2012 at 6pm

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## **The Threshold of A New Year**

As we stand poised on the threshold of a New Year, *The Hillcrest Newsletter* will continue to be a medium through which we can highlight the remarkable achievements of our community. We hope to be a voice for our long-time adult residents and newcomers, as well as the voice of our children and youth. We want to hear from our schools and encourage greater messaging from local businesses and the faith based community.

*The Hillcrest Newsletter* stands ready to showcase your work as we strive to develop a world class education for our children, seek career building and advancement opportunities for others, and create a safe, healthy community for us all. Many of these experiences will also be captured by our Twitter followers @HillcrestWard7, our Facebook users on All Over Hillcrest, our website visitors at www.hillcrestdc.com, and listserv members at HillcrestDC@yahoogroups.com.

May this new year bring you joy, peace, and meaning.

Happy 2013!

## **Make a Commitment**

There are many benefits to building a strong community. First and foremost, everyone wins! This year make a commitment to build positive relationships with your neighbors.

- Join (or renew your membership) in the Hillcrest Community Civic Association! There is power in numbers and we all have gifts and ideas to help our community grow and become a success.
- Exercise your mind and body by walking through our lovely community and greeting our neighbors with just a smile and a wave. Imagine how powerful that can be for a person.
- Bring joy to someone else by a small gesture like creating- yes, creating, a friendship card.
- Leave a \$1 bouquet or any small token on your neighbor's porch.
- Wish your neighbor a happy New Year with an inexpensive gift card.
- Welcome new families to the neighborhood with a smile and a packaged cupcake or granola bar!

Perform these kind gestures with no strings attached and just because you are a great person. Let's remember, be kind to one another and live life to its fullest.



## The President's Message

Dear Neighbors:

Earl and I hope you had a wonderful HOLIDAY SEASON! As we move into the New Year, Your new Board of Directors has been working diligently to improve our Association. The new Board of Directors has been developing action plans and budgets to make 2013 the one of the most exciting years for our organization.

Before I talk about 2013, let me close 2012 with a sincere thank you to the Fund Raising Committee, Chaired by Sheila Brown, and their wonderful holidays in Hillcrest event on December 8<sup>th</sup>. It seemed as if the whole neighborhood turned out and stayed because they were enjoying the event. That was one crowded tent. It was really good to see neighbors catching up with each other. It seemed no one wanted to leave. Was it the wine or the wonderful eggnog made by our own Don Murray? Who knows, but I want to thank all of you for supporting our event. I've already heard the committee talking about ways to make it even better next year.

The new Education Chair, De'Andre Anderson, has already formed an Education and Recreation Committee and has met twice. Mattie Cheek has jumped on board and gathered a team of interested people to help her widen our means of communication.

It is exciting to see people actually joining committees and working to improve our Association. Of course the Environmental Committee under the leadership of Mary Ross has been doing great things and they are developing their work plan for 2013.

I want to thank outgoing Board Members for their years of dedication and work for HCCA. First, Kathy Chamberlain, who was one of our longest serving Board members, is no longer on the Board. However, she will continue to run our website and help with membership. Thank you Kathy! Michelle Phipps-Evans is no longer serving as our Communications Chair. She did an excellent job of publishing our newsletter for the past 4 years. She moved to a cushier position, 1st Vice President. We thank you Michelle! Yvonne Dupree, Recording Secretary, was always there with her accurate and detailed monthly minutes. Thank you Yvonne! Veronica Davis, our excellent Street, Traffic and Transportation Chair, has and will continue to do a wonderful job tackling the quality of life issues for our community. Thank You Veronica! Finally, I would like to thank Chaplin John Hawkins, who for more than 20 years served our organization faithfully with his messages of inspiration! Thank you Chaplin Hawkins!

I will miss you all, but I take solace in knowing you may have left the Board but not the organization and you will never leave my heart. THANK YOU AGAIN!

NOW TO 2013!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

## The People Made the Party



Oh My, What A Party!

On Saturday, December 8, a theory was tested and proven - THE PEOPLE MAKE THE PARTY. By all accounts, the wine and dessert holiday celebration was a resounding success with approximately 150 people in attendance.

The eggnog and sangria were nice touches to the evening. They were perfect complements to chip and dip, veggie and cheese platters and fried wonton. Of course, everything worked with the assortment of desserts.

The Fundraising Committee really came through for our community. And, a special thanks is owed to Terence and Michelle Peete, who created the poetry on the announcement mailer and graciously availed their backyard for this event. Also, an entire team of Peete family members and friends served as bartenders, hostesses and ticket collectors.

Thanks to all who donated, attended and assisted with this multi-purpose event for outreach, socializing and fundraising. Special thanks to community businesses that supported the event with money or light fare:

- Craig Muckle, Safeway Corporation
- Tom Brown, CEO, Marshall Heights Community Development Organization
- Naylor Gardens
- Kathy Chung, Beltway Beauty and Barber Supply
- Yvette Alexander, Ward 7 Councilmember

Thanks also to other individuals who contributed their time, money and/or light fare: Miranda Boozer, Yvonne Dupree, Alice Foster, Kathy Chamberlain, Michelle Phipps-Evans, Veronica Davis, Monica Evans, Ann Curtsinger, Nancy Harris, Earl Williams, Don Murray, Mary Ross and Adrian O'Neal

Last, a special thanks to Lt. Mark Hodge and the MPD who patrolled the surrounding area and made us all feel safe.



## Julie Kutruff is this Month's Speaker

Julie Kutruff is a graduate of Virginia Tech and The George Washington University. She began her career in parks as a Naturalist and spent 18 years with the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. Her last position there was as a Superintendent in charge of 10 parks sites in N. Virginia which included an historic house site, nature center, public garden, golf course, several swimming pool complexes, a crew rowing facility and other recreational areas. Ms. Kutruff came to the National Park Service in 2008 and is currently the Eastern District Manager for National Capital Parks East. Her areas of responsibility include Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, Anacostia Park, Shepherd Parkway and the Civil War Defenses sites in NACE. Additionally Ms. Kutruff is an adjunct faculty member at George Mason University in the Parks, Recreation and Leisure Studies Program.

### Eco-Friendly Ways to Rid Walks and Driveways of Snow and Ice

Even though winter is upon us, we have been blessed to have a warmer than usual period that has averted any measurable snow or ice. Let's hope that our luck continues; if it doesn't, what follows are some suggestions on how we can keep walkways, sidewalks and driveways safe for people and pets while protecting the environment.

The only truly green way to remove snow and ice involves elbow grease. For snow removal, use of an ergonomic shovel will safe guard against back injury; further an electric powered snow shovel or blower will greatly lighten the load. In using these devices, go out at intervals while the snow is falling to clear the snow away. With regard to ice removal, the green way to handle that task is an ice breaker and muscle.

Most of us require additional or different methods to remove snow and ice than those above. With the majority in mind, we offer the following less strenuous and somewhat problematic alternatives:

To obtain traction, sand, clumping kitty litter and wood ashes have been used. Use them carefully and sparingly as they each have disadvantages: Sand can clog drains, harm vegetation, disrupt water life, and damage the hardwood floors in your home when it is tracked into the house. Kitty litter and wood ashes can be messy and necessitate clean up when the weather clears. Chemical Deicers: Iowa State University offered the following five commonly used snow and ice melters.

- 1. Calcium Chloride dissolves faster than other salts to begin the melting process. It poses risks to vegetation and the water supply, is corrosive to metal and concrete and will stain carpet when tracked into the house.

- 2. Sodium Chloride or rock salt is not effective in temperatures below 25 degrees Fahrenheit. It is corrosive to concrete and metal, presents health risks through contaminating drinking water, kills vegetation and burns and irritates the paws of pets. It is recommended that you carefully dry your pet's paws when it comes in from a walk in the snow.
- 3. Potassium Chloride, the table salt substitute also used as a fertilizer, has a tendency to burn foliage and inhibit rooting.
- 4. Urea is also used as a fertilizer. It reportedly has a lower burn potential than potassium chloride, but over application can cause plant injury.
- 5. Calcium Magnesium Acetate is salt free melting agent. It is reported to cause little damage to concrete or plants, but its effectiveness decreases when temperature is below twenty degrees F.

Given the benefits that these products render in alleviating the dangerous conditions caused by ice and snow, their use in moderation outweighs the disadvantages. Please remember to read the labels. Keep in mind that in using these products, more is not better; don't over apply.

General membership meeting is  
Saturday, January 5, 2013, 10am, at the  
Hillcrest Recreation Center on the corner of  
Denver & 32<sup>nd</sup> Streets, SE.

Note: Meetings are held the first Saturday of  
the month.

### Reflections on STEM Night at Anne Beers E.S.

By Linda M. Jackson

As a former member of the Anne Beers ES Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Partnership, I was excited to attend the Beers STEM Night on Dec. 13. I have always thought that Beers Principal, Ms. Gwendolyn Payton and Beers Science teacher/coordinator, Ms. Stephanie Harris, have been phenomenal women in their leadership in the school and for their part (along with the other Beers teachers) in getting the students interested in, and excited about STEM...it was good to see that these activities are not only continuing but are progressing very nicely at Beers ES.

I was really blown away by a young girl in the third grade who described her class project and answered my questions, without pause. Describing the project, she mentioned the word "hypothesis"! I asked her what that meant and without skipping a beat, she answered...."that's a prediction of what we think will happen."

Needless to say, I was very impressed. I know I didn't know that term when I was in third grade and probably not until high school (or maybe even college?)...

Got ideas?????

Please email any ideas or articles for the newsletter by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to [hillcrestdc\\_newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com).

Or follow on Twitter@HillcrestWard7 or write it on the Facebook wall, All Over Hillcrest.

Visit the website at [www.hillcrestdc.com](http://www.hillcrestdc.com)  
Join the conversation on the listserv at [HillcrestDC@yahoogroups.com](mailto:HillcrestDC@yahoogroups.com)

Have you paid your dues for 2013? Your paid-through date is on the mailing label of this news- letter. If it is earlier than 2013, please send your payment now. The cost is \$12/year. Make check payable to HCCA, and send to PO Box 30895, Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

or you can pay by credit card at [www.hillcrestdc.com/paydues.htm](http://www.hillcrestdc.com/paydues.htm)



Hillcrest Community Civic Association

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P.O. Box 30895

Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

## THE HCCA Newsletter

*A publication by the Hillcrest Community  
Civic Association*

*The Hillcrest Community Civic Association promotes the welfare of our neighborhood. Our purpose is simple--to voice our concerns to government officials, businesses, and residents to ensure the best possible living environment in the Ward 7 neighborhood of Hillcrest.  
[hillcrestdc\\_newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com).*

### HCCA Board

Karen Williams, President  
Michelle Phipps-Evans, First Vice President  
Boyle Stuckey, Second Vice President  
Deborah Johnson, Secretary  
Monica Evans, Treasurer  
Kenneth Burke, Parliamentarian  
Frank Anderson, Chaplain

### Committee Chairs:

Mattie Cheek, Communications  
De'Andre Anderson, Education and Recreation  
Mary Ross, Environmental and Beautification  
Sheila Brown, Fundraising  
Philip Hammond, Membership  
David Kirkpatrick, Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness  
Mark Johnson, Streets, Traffic and Transportation

Contact information is available on the website at [www.hillcrestdc.com](http://www.hillcrestdc.com)