



NEWSLETTER

HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 30895

Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

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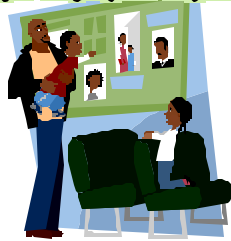
Next Meeting: Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009, at 10 a.m.

At the Hillcrest Recreation Center, Corner of Denver & 32nd Streets, SE

NOTE: Meetings are normally held the first Saturday of the month.

Streets, traffic and transportation

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Inside this issue:

Message from the President	2
Hillcrest News and Updates	3
Updates from the Recreation Center	3
Community Calendar	4

Comments?

Any comments or story ideas, please e-mail the newsletter editor, Michelle Phipps-Evans at hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com

A representative from the District of Columbia government's Department of Transportation (DDOT) will make a presentation at this month's meeting on streets, traffic and transportation. Also joining the discussion is the HCCA's Street, Traffic and Transportation Committee.



DDOT's mission is to enhance the quality of life for District residents and visitors by ensuring that people, goods, and information move efficiently and safely, with minimal adverse impact on residents and the environment. DDOT manages and maintains transportation infrastructure:

- Plans, designs, constructs, and maintains the District's streets, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, traffic signals, and street lights
- Manages and makes improvements to the street system to facilitate traffic flow through the District of Columbia
- Manages with the Department of Public Works, the removal of snow and ice from the streets
- Coordinates the District's mass transit services, including the reduced-fare program for students using MetroBus and MetroRail

Second Annual Hillcrest Home Holiday Decorating Contest

Happy 2009, Hillcrest! HCCA recognized 10 winning households for their outstanding holiday decorations this season at our January meeting.

The HCCA Home Decorating Contest Committee—Marvin Bowser, Kathy Chamberlain, Karen Williams, Donovan Anderson and Carrie Thornhill—had a great time touring the neighborhood and interacting with our neighbors. Our neighborhood artist in residence, Kathy Chamberlain, created this year's prizes. Kathy and Marvin proudly delivered the



The award

(Continued on page 2)

Message from the President

Dear Neighbors,

Two years ago when I first started writing this letter, every month I agonized over what I could possibly write about that would interest my neighbors. I spent hours composing three paragraphs. I wrote and rewrote. I had my husband reading and rereading my drafts. I was truly miserable every month. This letter became my monthly plague. It's been two years and I still have no idea what to write about every month, but I've learned not to make myself miserable. Now I sit down and start typing and something readable comes out. Don't know if the result is interesting or not, but who really reads this anyway?

Well, I recently found out that some people really do read this letter and it made me stop to think, what message can I convey to my neighbors that is interesting, hopefully informational, and funny. The truth is, I still don't know the answer to that question. Often when I talk to our past president Vincent Spaulding and we start complaining about this responsibility, we both agree this is one of the hardest parts of this job. Vince always fell back on writing about his pet peeve, littering. But now that he has accomplished his objective and helped to get anti-littering laws with enforcement on the books, I wonder what his new fall back issue would be?

Well, my fall back message is this. We are neighbors, living in the same wonderful community. We don't always agree on the issues, or what's important, or how to handle our problems, but we should always listen to each other and respect our differences. We should be using these different points of views to look at all sides of a problem and work together to find solutions. In no family, organization, neighborhood, government, etc. can everyone have their own way all the time. Recently, in our community, I have watched so many relationships destroyed, witnessed too many insults, seen too much anger and disappointment. I don't understand why. Differences should be viewed as positive and not a motivator for anger. Differences are the building blocks of positive change, of growth, of invention, of improvement. Different ideals, priorities, problem solving techniques, and viewpoints have made this country great. The trick is to seek out different points of view from people who don't look like us, or see the world exactly the same way we do, or have more or less education, or money, or experience, or different priorities, etc. You never know what great piece of information or what great insight you might have missed if you don't...so it should be with our neighbors. They are our family. If we want to maintain the little bit of heaven that is Hillcrest, DC, what other choice do we have?

Karen Lee Williams
President, HCCA

Hillcrest Holiday Decoration (Continued from page 1)

hand-painted glass ornaments on Christmas morning decked-out in our Santa caps. Thanks to the committee and the home owners who shared their holiday cheer with their family, neighbors and visitors to Hillcrest.

Next year, we hope more Hillcrest residents will point us in the direction of the best decorated homes—their own or their neighbors'—and perhaps help with the judging.

The honorees and the awards follow:

Address	Home Owner	Award
2625 33rd St	Michael McFadyen & Jay Keegan	Most Energy Efficient
2814 Ft Baker Dr	Michael & Susan Dodson	Judge's Choice
2407 33rd St SE	Barbara & Venable Garland	Most Elegant
3121 Westover Dr	Ken & Yvonne Corbett	Most spectacular
2839 Hillcrest Dr	Chuck Riley and Wayne Schwandt	Best Traditional Display
3114 Westover Dr	Kenneta Burnette	Best portrayal of spirit of the holiday
2136 Branch Ave	Myrtle E. Clark	Best lighting
3117 Westover Dr	Alexis Simendinger	Best lighting
2926 W St	Delores Pryde & Bernadette Hackley	Best lighting
2205 Branch Ave	Preston & Peggy Edwards	Best lighting

HILLCREST NEWS AND UPDATES

20th ANNIVERSARY SURVEY RESULTS

These responses will inform the planning of the 20th anniversary. They are from 33 HCCA members who filled out the survey while attending the January meeting.

Tell us who you are: ___resident of Hillcrest for 1 year or less; 4 resident for 5 years or less;

7 resident for 6-15 years; 3 resident for 16 – 25 years; 16 resident for 26 or more years

1. What theme do you think best characterizes our community from an **internal perspective** and should be promoted during the 20th Anniversary celebration?

15 Hillcrest is best known for its neighborliness, collegiality, and warmth of its residents

11 Hillcrest is best known for its civic involvement, civil discourse and civic activism

13 Hillcrest is best known for its beautiful hills, trees, shrubs, and homes

Other__ Combine the three 2 All Good 1

2. What theme do you want to best characterize our community from an **external perspective** and should be promoted during the 20th Anniversary celebration?

6 Hillcrest is best known for its neighborliness, collegiality, and warmth of its residents

17 Hillcrest is best known for its civic involvement, civil discourse and civic activism

11 Hillcrest is best known for its beautiful hills, trees, shrubs, and homes

Other___ All Good_____

3. The 10th & 15th Anniversaries were held September, when should the 20th be held?

22 first/2nd week in September/12th (before Blessing of the Trees is held)

9 October

1 November

3 1st week of December

Your preference__in lieu of Holiday Party—1; Don't need to have 2 major HCCA events in one month—1

4. What activities would you like to see? Check one or more!

19 Banquet with speaker

4 Banquet with Dancing

10 Souvenir Program

8 A Family Event

4 An Event for the children and youth (tour of fire station)

10 A historical or educational event

7 Awards Presentation

Other Showcase entrepreneurs in Hillcrest

5. What is your preference in days of week for event(s)?

6 Friday evening

3 Saturday morning

17 Saturday afternoon

7 Saturday night

2 Sunday afternoon

Other – Continuous slide show of Hillcrest photos running in background; history of Hillcrest, boundaries, landmarks. Meet and greet community leaders (i.e. Chairman Gray, Yvette Alexander, HCCA leadership); fitness day & presentation on health eating; story telling of history of Hillcrest

6. What places do you recommend in order of preference?

19 Hillcrest Recreation Center – 1st Choice

11 A military facility – Navy Yard, 2nd Choice

6 A hotel

9 A Conference Center

Others—Thearc-3rd Choice; Street Block Party, National Theatre

7. I want to work on the Anniversary Committee. Please fill in name, address, phone, email below:

Three additional volunteers signed up

For more information, contact:

Carrie L. Thornhill,

20th Anniversary Committee Chair

(202) 583.5164 or carrie.thornhill@verizon.net.

Updates from the Recreation Center

Feb. 13, Hillcrest Teen Valentine's Sock Hop, 7 p.m. to 9. p.m.

The teens of the community are invited to participate in an old-fashioned Valentine's sock hop. Teens must wear their socks to enter the party. There will be music, dancing and light refreshments.

Reminder

The community is reminded to stop by the recreation center to register for DC one cards.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

2	7 p.m.	Friends of Francis Gregory Library Meeting Francis Gregory Library, 3660 Alabama Ave., SE
7	10 a.m.	HCCA Meeting, Hillcrest Recreation Center 32nd and Denver Streets, SE
11	10 a.m.	Goodhope Marketplace Taskforce Meeting Goodhope Police Substation, 2800 blk Alabama Ave., SE
18	6 p.m.	PSA 606 Police/Community Meeting Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter, 3319 Alabama Ave., SE
19	7 p.m.	ANC 7B Monthly Meeting Ryland Epworth Methodist Church, 3200 "S" St., SE
		Scout meeting every Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m.—Cub Scouts; 11 a.m.—Boy Scouts at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

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Have you paid your dues for 2009? Your paid-through date is on the mailing label of this newsletter. If it is earlier than 2009, please send your payment now!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ ZIP code: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

New Member: _____ Renewal: _____

I'd like to serve on the following committee(s): _____

**Annual dues are only \$10. Make check payable to the Hillcrest Community Civic Association
and mail to:**

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