



Hillcrest Community Civic Association
"Working together for a better community"
www.HillcrestDC.com

P.O. Box 30895, Washington, D.C. 20030-0895, phone 202-584-2703

MARCH 2010

Next Meeting: Saturday, March 6, 2010, 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.

Team from the D.C. Department of Transportation to Speak

At the open forum at the January meeting, the HCCA membership had raised several issues about transportation and traffic-related issues. Therefore, the HCCA board has invited a team of speakers from the D.C. Department of Transportation (DDOT) to address the following issues among others:

- The construction and management plan for the 11th Street Bridges Project
- The construction and management plan for the Pennsylvania Improvement Project
- How to get more sidewalks installed within the HCCA neighborhood? Process and timeline?
- What does it take in terms of process and timelines to get streets repaired or redone?
- Explain the traffic calming program on Branch Avenue from Pennsylvania Avenue into Maryland, and the adverse impact on some residential streets.
- Plans or interest in a Circulator bus connecting the Hillcrest area to Capitol Hill.

We look forward to welcoming DDOT to our March meeting to discuss these, and any other concerns the membership will raise.

Special points of interest:

- *HCCA President Talks About Last Month's Snow Storms.*
- *13 Things Your Burglar Won't Tell You*
- *Free Home Security Audits Available*



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Community Calendar for March

- 6 10 a.m. HCCA Meeting, Hillcrest Community Center, 32nd & Denver St., SE
- 8 7 p.m. Friends of Francis Gregory Library Meeting, Francis Gregory Library, 3660 Alabama Ave., SE
- 10 10 a.m. Goodhope Marketplace Taskforce Meeting, Goodhope Police Substation, 2800 blk Alabama Ave., SE
- 17 6 p.m. PSA 606 Police/Community Meeting, Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter, 3319 Alabama Ave., SE
- 18 7 p.m. ANC 7B Monthly Meeting, Ryland 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

Message from the President

Dear Neighbors,

February. Now wasn't that interesting? For some, the month presented a lot of hardships; for others, it was a time to cuddle up and hibernate for a week. For all of us, it was the blizzard of the decade. While each of us had our own prospective of the week, I'd like to share mine. I work in Early Childhood Education. Unlike elementary, middle, and high schools, we are in session all year long—no Christmas, or spring break for us. We have to be there to provide care for all those children, 6 weeks to 4 years old so the parents can go to work...or not.

We have not had a good snow day off in more than three years. If D.C. Public Schools (DCPS) don't close, we don't close either. This year, we finally got enough snow for a day off but it always snowed on a Friday or Saturday, so on Monday morning back to work we go. This time, I thought it would be the same old thing. Snow on Friday, back to work on Monday. As a matter of fact, when I heard on Sunday evening that DCPS would be opening two hours late on Monday, I thought, par for the course. Didn't know how I would get there because my street nor any of the surrounding streets had been plowed but I was preparing myself to at least try to make it to work.

But then things changed and I had a day off, then another, and another. I don't know about any of you, but I considered each day a blessing. We had heat and food. The flat roof on the back of my house didn't collapse. This was no average snowstorm. For the Washington metro area, this was a once-a-decade event. No, maybe things weren't handled as well as they could have been. Yes, I had to stay in longer than I would have liked. I even had to cancel a Hillcrest Community Civic Association Meeting for the first time in 20 years. What a way to put my personal mark on my presidency. But the view from the top of this hill was beautiful and my neighbors and I had great times. We all looked out for each other. What more can one ask for? **SPRING!!!**

Karen

Did You Know You Can.....

- **Receive A Free Security Audit on Your Home?**

PSA 606 is conducting a home security audit for the Hillcrest community to address residents' security concerns. One of the questions the PSA wants answered is whether residents

have an active home alarm, which they use diligently. So far, the audit revealed that three out of the seven homes burglarized did not have an alarm, and one of the home's residents did not know how to set the alarm properly. Residents interested in an audit,

should contact Office Andre Persaud by e-mail at andre.persaud@dc.gov to set up an appointment. Or for more information, call (202) 698-2088.

Residents are invited to the next PSA 606 meeting Wednesday, March 17, at 6 p.m.

HILLCREST NEWS AND UPDATES

Tax Changes for 2010 Tax Filing Season

—In 2009, numerous tax filing initiatives were enacted. Following is a summary of key changes for tax payers filing their 2009 returns.

Anacostia River and Prevention Fund: Individuals are able to contribute to its clean up efforts. Fill out Schedule U, Part II, Line 3 on form D-40 or Line 9c on form D-40EZ.

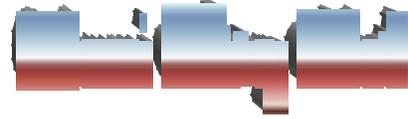
Taxation of Compensation of Military Members and Spouses: On Nov. 11, 2009, President Barack Obama signed the Military Spouses Residency Relief Act to prevent multiple state taxation on the income and property of military personnel serving in various tax jurisdictions because of military service. The act provides that a state or local tax jurisdiction cannot include the military compensation earned by nonresident service members to compute the income tax liability imposed on the non-military income earned by the service member.

Refund directed to foreign account (IAT): Electronic banking rules have changed. Refunds directed to an account outside the United States will be issued on a paper check.

Recovery Act Decoupling: Individuals will not be able to deduct the District of Columbia excise taxes on the purchase of motor vehicles whether they itemize or take the standard deduction.

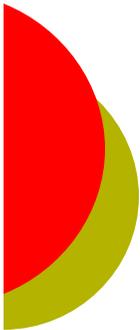
For more information, contact Office of Tax and Revenue at its new location this spring at 1101 4th St., SW, or call (202) 727-4TAX (4829) or visit www.taxpayerservicecenter.com

13 Things Your Burglar Won't Tell You



1. Of course I look familiar. I was here last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.
2. Hey, thanks for letting me use the bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was in there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.
3. Love those flowers. That tells me you have taste...and taste means there are nice things inside. Those yard toys your kids leave out always make me wonder what type of gaming system they have.
4. Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway. I might leave a pizza flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it.
5. If it snows while you're out of town, get a neighbor to create car and foot tracks into the house. Virgin drifts in the driveway are a dead giveaway.
6. If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company install the control pad where I can see if it's set. That makes it too easy.
7. A good security company alarms the window over the sink. And the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there too.
8. It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forget to lock your door-understandable. But understand this: I don't take a day off because of bad weather.
9. I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. (Don't take me up on it.)
10. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.
11. Helpful hint: I almost never go into kids' rooms.
12. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down, I'll take it with me.
13. A loud TV or radio can be a better deterrent than the best alarm system. If you're reluctant to leave your TV on while you're out of town, you can buy a \$35 device that works on a timer and simulates the flickering glow of a real television. (Find it at faketv.com.)

*Sources: Convicted burglars in North Carolina, Oregon, California and Kentucky; security consultant Chris McGoey, who runs crimedoctor.com; and Richard T. Wright, a criminology professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, who interviewed 105 burglars for his book, *Burglars on the Job*.*



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