



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

APRIL 2010

Next Meeting: Saturday, April 3, 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.

Darlene Dinkins from the EPA to Speak

Please welcome Darlene Dinkins, a communications specialist from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Dinkins, a Hillcrest resident, has worked in the Office of Pesticide Programs' Communication Services Branch since 1992, and is currently managing various public awareness campaigns and outreach projects that educate the public on preventing pesticide poisonings, pest management, and alternatives to chemical pest control.

She is currently representing the EPA on the National Poison Prevention Week Council and has been a council member for 12 years. She has served as Council Chair for two years. Before working for the EPA, Dinkins worked in account management for Young and Rubicam Advertising, and Abramson Associates Advertising. She has a bachelor of arts degree in journalism and public relations from Howard University.

The EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment. It leads the nation's environmental science, research, education and assessment efforts. The mission of the Environmental Protection Agency is to protect human health and the environment. Since 1970, EPA has been working for a cleaner, healthier environment for the American people. For more information, visit www.epa.us.gov.

Special points of interest:

- *HCCA President Talks About Improvements*
- *HCCA Directory Now Available*
- *Learn How to Create a BackYard Habitat*
- *Meet Your New Neighbors*

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Community Calendar for April

- 3 10 a.m. HCCA Meeting, Hillcrest Community Center, 32nd & Denver St., SE
- 5 7 p.m. Friends of Francis Gregory Library Meeting, Francis Gregory Library, 3660 Alabama Ave., SE
- 14 10 a.m. Goodhope Marketplace Taskforce Meeting, Goodhope Police Substation, 2800 blk Alabama Ave., SE
- 15 7 p.m. ANC 7B Monthly Meeting, Ryland Methodist Church, 3200 "S" St., SE
- 21 6 p.m. PSA 606 Police/Community Meeting, Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter, 3319 Alabama Ave., 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,

Now that the snow has all melted, and the sun has graced us with her presence, all the excuses for getting out and about are gone. That means no more excuses for walking past that litter on your street, or starting to clean up all those branches, broken shrubbery, leaves and debris in your yard. Believe me, I've tried to ignore the mess, but for some reason I can't. I think what makes ignoring the confusion so hard is that we're finally seeing the results of many years of lobbying. The 11th Street Bridge Project and the Pennsylvania Avenue Project are both in full swing. This is wonderful, but it's also a mess. We sometimes forget that to move forward we have to live with some inconvenience.

I remember vividly when we decided to renovate our kitchen. Earl and I thought we had it all planned out how we could still cook and live a relatively normal life through the

construction process. Needless to say, we were soooooo wrong. For almost six months, the house was a mess, dirt and plaster dust everywhere; my allergies went into overdrive; we encountered unexpected problems and cost overruns; and we had to eat every meal out. But one day, I walked into the space that had been a waste land and found a wonderful kitchen!



So my point is, even though traffic is a mess and we might have to leave home earlier, and put up with some inconveniences, we asked to be treated like the rest of the city. We who live East of the River demanded improvements to our infrastructure. There is always a price to pay for change. Remember; be careful what you ask for...you might get it.

Karen

Did You Know You Can.....

- **Visit 311.dc.gov for Easy Online Access to City Services?**

Most of us know to call 311 for non-emergency calls but most of us don't realize you can now go online for 311 requests. The DC government recently provided online access to city services through the Service Request Center at 311.dc.gov (no www before it.) From trash pick-up to poster removal to traffic signals, the Service Request Center makes it easy to submit requests online. You'll receive a tracking number, allowing you to check the status of your request.

For additional assistance, please contact the Mayor's Citywide Call

Center at 311, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

- **Learn How to Create a BackYard Habitat from the NWF?**

The National Wildlife Federation has a program that instructs you on creating a backyard habitat, and provides you with certification. You can create a garden that attracts wildlife and helps restore habitat in commercial and residential areas.

By providing food, water, cover and a place for wildlife to raise their young—and by incorporating sustainable gardening practices—you not only help wildlife, but you also qualify to become an official Certified Wildlife Habitat.

Call 1-800-822-9919 or e-mail info@nwf.org for more info.

- **View Your Refund Status Online?**

Taxpayer Service Center is the District's online tax filing service site that allows taxpayers to file individual income tax returns online for the current tax year. You can now view your refund status online by visiting the Individual Income Tax Online Filing at https://www.taxpayerservicecenter.com/individual/Ind_Logon.jsp?type=100.

Or call (202) 727- 4TAX (4829) for more information.

Customer Service Center Address: 941 North Capitol St., NE, 1st floor, Washington, DC 20002.

HILLCREST NEWS AND UPDATES



Fresh Organic Produce
 Hillcrest has a roving organic market that is generally found at the Washington Seniors Wellness Center on 30th and Alabama, SE. The vendor, who spoke at a recent HCCA meeting, offers a wide variety at great prices. Spinach, mustard, collard, swiss chard and kale greens, onion, turnips, garlic, white potatoes, bananas, oranges, apples, a few pineapples, bell peppers (yellow, orange, red and green). Introductory bags are \$15, with a variety of fruits and vegetables. Delivery in Ward 7 is available for a fee of \$2. Seniors are free. Contact Derrick Smith for more information at dcysive@yahoo.com.

April is Financial Literacy Month
 How financially literate or fit are you? Do you understand the importance of building wealth and eliminating debt? Do you know when to use or not to use your credit cards? Can you spot a potential fraudulent transaction? Use the month of April to find programs around the city that show you how.

HCCA Membership Directory Available
 The HCCA membership directory is now available. The first batch of 30 copies sold quickly at the March 6 HCCA meeting; but don't worry, we'll have more available at the April 3 meeting. The directory contains an alphabetical list of members and also a list organized by street address.
 The latter should be helpful for neighborhood watch issues—for example when you want to notify a neighbor about something going on at their home but you can't remember their name.
 About 30 residents opted out of being listed, so the booklet does not include all members. We hope that the unlisted members will consider being listed when the directory is reprinted, probably six to 12 months from now.
 If you joined HCCA after January 2010, you may not be listed. We'll include you in the next version. The cost of the directory is \$8. If you'd like one but can't make the meet-

ing, contact Kathy Chamberlain at 581-8272, (KathyChamberlain@HillcrestDC.com) or Karen Williams at 584-2703, (klwilliams@HillcrestDC.com), and arrange to pick one up. Only HCCA members can purchase the booklet, and we're requiring that buyers sign a statement saying they will only use it for neighborhood purposes, not for commercial purposes or political campaigns. The booklet is available only in printed form, not on the web.



SAVE THE DATE

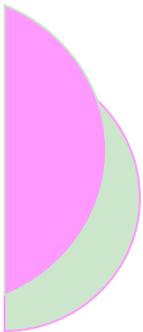
17th Annual Hillcrest Garden Tour
June 19, 2010, 11 a.m.

Library Update
The Anacostia Interim Library Closes April 3
New, Permanent Library Opens April 26
 The Anacostia neighborhood's Interim Library at 1801 Good Hope Rd, SE, will close Saturday, April 3, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. Library services will resume Monday, April 26, 2010, at the new **Anacostia Neighborhood Library** at 1800 Good Hope Rd, SE.



HCCA WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

- Lawrence Green and Norma Toussant, 2714 Terrace Rd SE #A611
- Jeri Green, 2205 31st Pl., SE
- Kathleen Addison 2418 Branch Ave., SE
- Robert & Pilar Jarrin, 3180 Westover Dr., SE
- Starling Roshia Peavy, 2904 Fort Baker Dr., SE
- Veronica Davis, 2008 Fort Davis St., SE



WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.HILLCRESTDC.COM
HILLCRESTDC@YAHOOGROUPS.COM



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Have you paid your dues for 2010? Your paid-through date is on the mailing label of this newsletter. If it is earlier than 2010, please send your payment now.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ ZIP code: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

New Member: _____ Renewal: _____

I prefer to: ____ read the newsletter on the web (www.HillcrestDC.com) or ____ receive the newsletter in the mail. (Please help us save postage by reading the newsletter online.)

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

Annual dues are \$12/year. Make check payable to the
Hillcrest Community Civic Association and mail to:
P.O. Box 30895

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Or pay using a credit card online at www.hillcrestdc.com/paydues.htm