



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

MAY 2011

Next Meeting: Saturday, May 7, 2011, 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.

Council Chair Kwame Brown To Address the HCCA



Mother's Day

Called away for an emergency during the February meeting when he was due to address the HCCA, Council of the District of Columbia Chairman Kwame R. Brown will instead address the body in May. Chairman Brown, a Hillcrest resident, is an innovative leader and native Washingtonian who has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of District residents; making education, job creation and economic development the cornerstones of his life-long service to the community.



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Community Calendar for May 4

Sworn into office January 2011, he is the seventh Chairman to lead the Council of the District of Columbia. As an At-Large Councilman from 2005-2010, Chairman Brown solidified his presence in District government by co-sponsoring more than 170 pieces of legislation. In 2007, he became chair of the Committee on Economic Development where he made certain that developers kept the promises made to the city by creating a compliance unit within the D.C. Auditor's office. His work led to a landslide victory in his bid for Chairman in 2010, winning nearly 90 percent of the vote. Chairman Brown led the way for the restoration of Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering Public High School. Before his election to the Council, he worked in private industry. Chairman Brown is a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School; and he holds a bachelor's of arts in marketing from Morgan State, and has completed the Senior Executives in Government Program at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and the Business Executive program at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College. He and his wife of 16 years, Marcia, are parents to two children, Lauren and Kwame II.

Special points of interest:

- *The HCCA President Muses on Modeling*
- *Watchful pruning of trees*
- *May Calendar*
- *Poster Contest*

HCCA Meeting Moves to the Gym

At 11:15 a.m., the HCCA meeting will move to the gymnasium for the following:

- Representatives from the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development will present an update, and the new proposed timeline on the Skyland Redevelopment Project. This includes the city's plan to keep the site active while in development.
- Mayor Vincent C. Gray's Ward 7 town hall meeting on the FY 2012 budget will be at 11:30 a.m. on May 7. The citywide town halls, which began April 25, are designed to offer residents the opportunity to participate in the shaping of the fiscal 2012 budget.

A Message from the President

Dear Neighbors,

This is the second time this month I had to write this %&#@ letter. I thought I was smart, did it early, and sent it in. Out the way, done. No more worries. Then, at the deadline, I get this e-mail from Michelle, the editor, saying, "there was no attachment with your email." What! Ok, I'm at work. I'll just go home, turn on the old computer and resend. I come home, turn on the computer. But, I can't find the document or any proof of sending it. Have to write it again. But I can't remember what I wrote about. I go downstairs and tell Earl I can't spend any more time with him planning a vacation. "I really messed up, and I have to rewrite my letter." "What did I write about anyway...do you remember?"

Earl said, "It was such an interesting letter and it had a good opening." Great, but I can't remember the great opening. I come back upstairs and sit. Finally, Earl hollers up the stairs, "Modeling, you

wrote about modeling." Now, I remember.

Modeling. I'm going to model for my community. No, I don't think I want to pose for Vanity Fair or Glamour magazine, but I want to encourage my neighbors to change their behavior by setting a good example. I was riding out of the neighborhood when I noticed all the litter on the street. I was riding, not driving so I had the opportunity to get a good look at what's going on. So, I declared I was going to pick up trash on my street and the neighboring streets. Now, this is something I've done many times before; and will probably do many times in the future; but if everyone would just pick up the trash in front of their property, we'd pretty much have the problem of litter licked. Litter makes the neighborhood look bad, makes people think we don't care, leads to more crime and deterioration, which leads to more litter. In the words of my predecessor, Vince Spaulding, **PICK UP**

THE TRASH PLEASE! There were more good stuff and more good reasons for this letter but I can't remember them. But neighbors, as the weather changes, let's model some good behavior for our other neighbors and make Hillcrest the gem of the city, with the nicest homes, best gardens and cleanest streets in the city. Let's get out and clean our streets.

Karen

Any ideas or articles, e-mail the editor, Michelle Phipps-Evans, at
hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com by the 15th of the month.

Happy Mother's Day

HILLCREST NEWS AND UPDATES

Did You Miss Your April Newsletter?

If you live in the 3300 blk of Erie St., SE; the 3300-3400 blk of Southern Ave.; or 2500-2600 blk of 36 St., SE, you may not have received your April newsletter. Sixteen newsletters were returned undelivered, marked "Return to Sender, Not

deliverable as Addressed." All the addresses were valid. After many calls to various departments in the Post Office, the problem was tracked to a substitute mail carrier who was on duty March 30, the date of delivery. The regular carrier was on vacation. The delivery supervisor at the mail sorting facility in Maryland apologized, and

said she will speak to him. We hope it doesn't happen again. If you have web access, the newsletter link is always on the front page of www.hillcrestdc.com.

Hillcrest Community Day

On July 2, 2011, the Hillcrest Recreation Center,

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Hillcrest News and Updates (Continued from page 2)

in partnership with volunteers who grew up in Hillcrest, will host the Hillcrest Community Day at the center. The event is planned from noon to 6 p.m. and will offer lots of fun as well as informative and beneficial exhibits and seminars. Originally, a group of folks who grew up in Hillcrest wanted to connect with childhood friends, and their reunion grew to become a celebration of all that is Hillcrest. You are welcome to get involved with the planning of the community events. The next planning meeting will be Saturday, May 7, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center at noon. Contact Teri Davis at (240) 765-8867. Also, this group created a Facebook page called Bak in the Day the Hillcrest SE Way, and encourages others to join.

The HCCA Poster Contest

The HCCA is sponsoring a poster contest for 5-to-17-year-old Hillcrest residents on the subject, *Supporting Our Environment*. Address questions to Mary Ross at dcmfross@cs.com. Deadline is Friday, May 13, at noon. All entries must be delivered to either the interim Francis A Gregory Library, 2100 36th Place, SE; the Hillcrest Recreation Center or with any Environmental Committee member. Winners will be informed by Friday, May 20, and money prizes will be awarded at the HCCA meeting on June 4 at 10 a.m. Prizes are: ages 5 to 7, \$25; ages 8 to 10, \$25; ages 11 to 13, \$50, and ages 14 to 17, \$75.

18th Annual Home and Garden Tour

The HCCA invites you to the 18th Annual Hillcrest Home and Garden Tour on June 18, 2011, with a walking tour that begins 11 a.m. It will take about two hours, and light refreshments will follow. Starting location is to be announced. Cost: \$15, if purchased day of the tour; \$12, if purchased in advance. Purchase tickets via credit card at www.HillcrestDC.com.

Deadline to submit ads and donations for the souvenir book is May 14. Contact Tom Beach at tbeach@tabmeh.com or (202) 290-1800 for ads or Maurice Perry at mlperry45@gmail.com or (202) 581-4022 about donations.

The Enlightened Environmentalist

Watchful Pruning of Street Trees

The large street trees that line Suitland Road, Alabama and Branch Avenues, and many interior streets are scheduled for trimming every two years, as specified by the Urban Forestry Administration of the D.C. Department of Transportation. However, if one looks closely, one can see the haphazard, irregular and butchering of these large trees along our streets performed by poorly trained or un-caring tree workers.



Certified arborists have noted that proper pruning can extend the life of a tree; or too much pruning can damage and even kill a tree. Most of this pruning has been done by PEPCO around electric wires with little supervision from the Urban Forestry inspectors. Now, we have learned that PEPCO has instituted a program called "Maintaining Trees for Better Services," which is supposed to provide safe and reliable electric service while maintaining a balance between aesthetics and electric reliability during street tree pruning. For the city's part, they are planting smaller trees around electric lines with limited height growth.

If properly maintained, these street trees can live for 100 years or more, and grow to approximately 150 feet in height, and are usually self-supporting. The improper pruning of our mature trees can provide a challenge to the city during the summer and winter storms, but we must endeavor to maintain our street tree canopy, for it is our great asset.

Courtesy the Environmental Committee

Hillcrest Community Civic Association
 HILLCREST COMMUNITY
 CIVIC ASSOCIATION
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Community Calendar for May	
2	7 p.m. Friends of Francis Gregory Library Meeting Interim Francis Gregory Library, 2100 36th Place, SE
7	10 a.m. HCCA Meeting, Hillcrest Community Center, 32nd & Denver St., 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 East Washington Heights Baptist Church, 2220 Branch Ave., SE
19	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	

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HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES FOR 2011? *Your paid-through date is on the mailing label of this newsletter. If it is earlier than 2011, 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

Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

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