



Hillcrest Community Civic Association

"Working together for a better community"

www.HillcrestDC.com

P.O. Box 30895, Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

HILLCREST NEWSLETTER

Hillcrest Community Civic Association Newsletter

May 2017

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Guest Speaker: Karl A. Racine

Attorney General Karl A. Racine is the first elected Attorney General of the District of Columbia. With his inauguration in 2014, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) began an era of independence for the agency and accountability to District residents.

As the chief legal officer for the District of Columbia, Attorney General Racine relies on his 25 years of legal and leadership experience to advise the Mayor and District agencies, defend the city in court, and use the law to advance the public interest. He has prioritized data-driven juvenile justice reform, consumer protection efforts aimed at assisting the District's most vulnerable residents, measures to advance democracy and safeguard public integrity, and legal actions to protect affordable housing in communities across the District.



Karl A. Racine, Attorney General of the District of Columbia

Attorney General Racine has broad and deep legal experience, with a career that spans representing indigent residents in the D.C. Public Defender Service and volunteering as a law student in a clinic supporting migrant farm workers' rights to serving as Associate White House Counsel in the first Clinton Administration and practicing white-collar and commercial litigation with leading law firms. Attorney General Racine was the first African-American managing partner of a top-100 US law firm, Venable LLP, where he led a team of over 600 attorneys, and has also served on the District's Judicial Nomination Commission.

A lifelong District resident, Attorney General Racine attended Murch Elementary School, Deal Junior High School, Wilson High School, and graduated from St. Johns College High School. He also played basketball in youth sports leagues across the city. Attorney General Racine's deep commitment to equal justice was inspired by his parents, who fled authoritarian rule in Haiti to start a new life in the United States, and by the lawyers of the Civil Rights Movement, who used the law to effect positive social change. Outside of his official role, he remains involved with a variety of causes, including youth literacy and mentoring.

Racine earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Pennsylvania and his law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law.

Special Points of Interest

HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

Hillcrest Recreation Center
32nd and Denver Street, SE
Saturday, May 6, 2017
10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

PSA 606 POLICE
COMMUNITY MEETING
East Washington Heights
Baptist Church
2200 Branch Ave., SE
Wednesday, May 17, 6 PM

ANC 7B MONTHLY MEETING
Ryland Methodist Church
3200 S St., SE
Thursday, May 18, 7 PM

UPDATES FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

As you all know, the Education Committee has been busy this month! Several Committee members testified to the Public Charter School Board against the KIPP enrollment increase proposal that named plans for two new schools in Hillcrest. Since then, KIPP has indicated its intent to look for alternate sites for its schools outside of Hillcrest. While we consider this a win for Hillcrest, we are continuing to work with our neighbors in the surrounding communities to request a broader Ward 7 education conversation and plan. We will share the date with you when this meeting is locked in.

Also, many thanks to those of you who took the time to complete the survey related to the Winston Education Campus. The results will be used to guide the advocacy of the Education Committee.

Recreation Committee Meeting

The Recreation Committee meeting will be held Thursday, May 4 at 7pm at the recreation center at 32nd and Denver Street SE. We are seeking volunteers for assignments as we explore starting a Friends group. Any questions, please email Michelle Phipps-Evans at mbpevans@yahoo.com.



HCCA WINSTON SURVEY RESULTS

Description of the sample

- Completed by 95 Ward 7 residents living in proximity to the Winston Education Campus
- 79 percent of respondents from Hillcrest; remainder are from Naylor Gardens, Penn Branch, Randle Highlands, Fairfax Village, Ft. Dupont Park, Benning, etc.
- Fifty one percent (51) of respondents have children under age 18 currently enrolled in elementary school, middle school, or high school; Another 10 percent no longer have school-age children living in the home.

Findings

Most respondents prefer a high-quality middle school at Winston, but a substantial second group prefer a recreation center expansion

- When asked to rank their preferred amenities/resources at Winston, 56 percent of respondents ranked a high-quality elementary, middle, or high school as their first choice.
 - Forty one percent of all respondents ranked a high-quality middle school as their first choice.
 - An additional 20 percent ranked a high-quality middle school as their second choice.
- Twenty four percent of respondents ranked recreation center improvements with a pool as their first choice.
 - An additional 18 percent of respondents ranked recreation center improvements as their second choice.

In their search for quality education, neighborhood residents are sending their children to a wide variety of schools

- When asked, the 57 respondents with children have sent their students to a staggering 49 schools. There is no consistent pattern of attendance, which is perhaps reflective of the large amount of choice represented by the lottery in DC and loose feeder patterns East of the River.
- When asked which qualities are most important when choosing schools for their children, respondents with children ranked educational reputation and specific programming options (ie, STEM, language immersion, etc.) as the most important.
 - Because the majority of parents answering this survey have opted out of their local schools, it's perhaps not surprising that they ranked "proximity to my neighborhood/community" lower.

When asked about the best schools in the District, neighborhood residents offer relatively few schools

- Deal and Washington Latin were the two most frequently cited middle schools, with Deal the overwhelming favorite (nearly 50% of respondents). Notably, when respondents were asked to rank the second best middle school in the District, Hardy was the most frequently named institution.
- School Without Walls was the most frequently cited high school, with Banneker and Wilson the next most mentioned.

Neighborhood residents have strong feelings about charters, and about bringing a new charter to the neighborhood

- When asked to list the top three performing charters in the

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MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Members re-connect with old friends and meet new members, while you bring new ideas and recommendations, to help solve neighborhood issues/problems.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PAST AND CONTINUED SUPPORT.

Eddie & Alberta Baker - 2017
Cheryl Ball - 2017
Jeffrey Ballou - 2018
Cecilia Bankins - 2017
Carolyn Bennett - 2021
Kelsi Bracmort - 2018
Kenneth & Diedere Brewer - 2020
Bertram & Louella Brown - 2020
Ivan K. Brown - 2017
Marva Carroll - 2017
Mabel Cheek - 2017
Yvonne D. Coates - 2017
Alphonso Coles - 2017
Courtney Cochran - 2018
Bobby Cooper - 2018
Janice & Octavius Corbett - 2017
Charles & Waletta Cotten - 2019
Hugh Coyle - 2018
Richard & Patty Crutchfield - 2017
Walter & Shelia Curry - 2018
Yamilee S. Dambreville -2018
Sarah L. Davis - 2017
Anthony & Darlene Dinkins - 2019
Cheryl Dobbins - 2017
Michael & Susan Dodson - 2017
Peter & Elizabeth Dortch - 2018
Michelle & Antonio Evans - 2017
Linda & Jerry Faison - 2017
Hudie & Peggy Fleming - 2017
Margaret Forde - 2018
Benjamin & Alyce Foster - 2017
Susan Foster - 2018

Thank you,
Phillip Hammond

STREAM RESTORATION AT ALGER PARK BEGUN

Alger Park, the District of Columbia owned Hillcrest park side area, bounded by V Place, 30th and 31st streets, and Hillcrest and Park drives, is presently being renovated. The Alger Park restoration seeks to do the traditional stream restoration through the currently popular step pools by installing boulders and cobblestones designed to convey storm water so that erosion is prevented. During the project trees, which have root systems, exposed through erosion, and trees, which present safety hazards, will be removed. This notwithstanding a goal of the project continues to be to preserve the tree canopy. The end result of the work will be to stabilize the stream, thereby eliminating a source of erosion resulting in foundation problems to homes near the park, and improve long term water quality and habitat conditions in Alger Park.

The cost of stream restoration at Alger Park is posted as being \$2,056,110.10 (Two million, fifty-six thousand, one hundred ten dollars and ten cents). Payment is enabled through the following funds and grants:

- EPA Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant: \$100.000
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant: \$424.045.94
- EPA Clean Water State Revolving Fund: \$935,000
- EPA Non-Profit Source Grant: \$97, 004.16
- Bag Law Funds: \$500.000

The stream restoration began in March; it is anticipated that completion will occur in 6 – 8 months. Permitted working hours for the project are Monday – Saturday, 7:00 AM to 7:00PM. Josh Burch, the driving force behind bringing this project to fruition, is its Project Manager. Josh, an Environmental Protection Specialist at the Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) can be reached at 202/535-2247 (desk), 202/ 734-9527 (cell), or josh.burch@dc.gov (email).

Finally, individual homeowners throughout the community can help in the restoration of the stream at Alger Park by helping to decrease the amount of water that enters the stream. To do this you are encouraged to take part in keeping rain water on your property and out of the stream through rain barrels and rain gardens offered through DDOEE and tide walk gardens sponsored by DDOT.



HCCA WINSTON SURVEY RESULTS

District, Washington Latin received the most votes, with Two Rivers and KIPP a close second and third.

- When asked which of these top 3 charters residents would send their children to, Washington Latin received the most votes (8).
- Notably however, twice as many respondents (16) wrote in that they wouldn't send their children to a charter at all.
- Residents were asked to answer how likely a variety of outcomes would be if a charter came to Winston.
 - The two outcomes considered most likely are "traffic in the neighborhood would worsen" and "the charter school operators will disregard community concerns and priorities."
 - Neighbors are concerned about the impact a charter might have on community safety, with 37% responding that it was "least likely" that improved safety would be an outcome.

"The two most important days in your life are the day you were born, and the day you find out why."

-Mark Twain

Hillcrest Newsletter brings you the information of the community

HCCA Board

Karen Williams, President
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Yantee Neufville, Chair, Streets, Traffic and Transportation


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Got Ideas!

Email ideas or articles for newsletter by the 15th of the month to:
hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com

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