



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 2018

In This Issue

- Guest Speaker: Karima Holmes, Director of the Office of Unified Communications
- DC Police Apprehend Juvenile Trespassers in Winston School
- New Charter School Plans Hillcrest Location
- Easter Egg Hunt at Hillcrest
- Hillcrest Scholarships
- The Butterfly Garden Cleanup
- Interim Deputy Mayor of Education and Interim Chancellor Visit Ward 7



This month Karima Holmes, Director, Office of Unified Communications, will be our guest speaker.

Ms. Holmes was appointed by Mayor Muriel Bowser to serve as the Director of the Office of Unified Communications (OUC) in January 2016. OUC consolidates the emergency 911, non-emergency and basic city service 311 call activities from the Metropolitan

Police Department (MPD), DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department (DCFEMS) and the Mayor's city services call center. The operation serves as the only Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) in the District of Columbia and is responsible for the public safety communications infrastructure that ensures police, fire and emergency medical dispatch for its almost 700,000 residents, including support of the Secret Service and all presidential movements, while maintaining radio interoperability with public safety entities across the National Capital region. The OUC handles a combined 3.1 million 911 and 311 calls and 12 million push-to-talk transmissions annually.

A seasoned public safety professional, Ms. Holmes started her career on the front line as a communications officer, handling incoming 911 calls and dispatching responders to incident locations. Throughout her career, Ms. Holmes has also held a number of other vital positions including Acting Assistant Director, Sergeant, Quality Assurance Supervisor, Training Coordinator, and Standards Manager. Director Holmes currently serves as the Vice Chair of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) 911 Directors Subcommittee and as the District of Columbia's state representative with the National Association of State 911 Administrators (NASNA).

Special Points of Interest

HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

Hillcrest Recreation Center
32nd and Denver Street, SE
Saturday, May 5th
11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

PSA 606 POLICE COMMUNITY MEETING
East Washington Heights
Baptist Church
2200 Branch Ave., SE

Wednesday, May 16th, 6 PM
ANC 7B MONTHLY MEETING
Ryland Methodist Church
3200 S St., SE
Thursday, May 17th, 6:30 PM



All Hillcrest Community Civic Association members who have not paid the yearly membership dues by June 1st will no longer receive the monthly newsletter.

Don't miss out on what is happening in the Hillcrest Community, renew your membership today!

DC POLICE APPREHEND JUVENILE TRESPASSERS IN WINSTON SCHOOL

On Thursday, April 5 at around 6:40 pm, the DC Police Department responded to a call concerning three juveniles entering the Winston School building on Erie Street through a rear door that was not well-secured. Several police officers arrived rather quickly and apprehended three male juvenile suspects in the building. Names of the youth were not released due to their age.

The Winston School building is now empty, but it is not abandoned. Several private educational groups have expressed interest in using the facilities. The Hillcrest Community Civic Association has not endorsed the applications of any of the interested parties.



NEW CHARTER SCHOOL PLANS HILLCREST LOCATION

It appears that Hillcrest will get a new public charter school this fall. The Digital Pioneers Academy (DPA) has signed an initial lease with the East Washington Heights Baptist Church to rent space within the educational building of that congregation. The school aims to begin sixth grade classes this fall if all the permits and paperwork can be completed.

The plan has the support of many parents of children attending Ann Beers Elementary School. Anne Beers presently offers classes only through the fifth grade, so the proposed academy will provide further opportunity for our children to continue their education in the Hillcrest community.

Since East Washington Heights Church is a congregational church, the lease had to have the approval of the membership. An official business session was held on Sunday, March 11 to consider the proposal. During the discussion, there were concerns raised about potential conflicts with existing church programs, especially during the weekdays. The motion to approve the lease was carried by a majority vote.

There are still numerous legal actions Digital Pioneers Academy (DPA) must complete, such as getting a permit, notifying immediate neighbors, and securing a building inspection. The plans call for the students to enter through the middle doors facing Branch Ave. The signage for the school will be erected on the front lawn of the church.

The educational wing of the church was built approximately seventy-five years ago. Major interior reconstruction on the second floor will have to be completed this summer in order to meet DC standards for operating a school. Other adaptations will be made on the first floor of the educational as well as the basement area.

DPA has committed to lease the facilities for one year with the right of an additional one year renewal. DPA is not a religious school and the East Washington Heights Church will not be involved in the management of the school.



HILLCREST SCHOLARSHIPS

The Hillcrest Community Civic Association is pleased to announce that there are **TWO** Hillcrest scholarships this year: the Hillcrest Memorial Scholarship in Honor of Yantee Neufville and the HCCA Scholarship. The application for both scholarships is now up on the HCCA website and the deadline is June 1, 2018. Finalists may be called for a personal interview at the Francis A. Gregory library in June and the winner will be announced at the July 7, 2018 HCCA meeting. Please share with your neighbors in high school!

EASTER EGG HUNT AT HILLCREST

The HCCA expresses its gratitude to the members of the Hillcrest community who contributed both their time and their Easter-related donations. Several neighbors donated boiled eggs, both empty and filled plastic eggs, chocolate eggs, additional funding, and most importantly many attended this event. The Easter Egg Hunt and egg dyeing activity on March 31 would not have been successful without your support. We had more than 700 plastic eggs for the children to find.

We give a huge thanks to our friends at Sibley Memorial Hospital who generously donated chocolates for the plastic eggs, bottled water, and bags of potato chips. We truly appreciate their generosity. We are looking forward to an even bigger and better event in 2019

Michelle Evans



BUTTERFLY GARDEN CLEANUP

The HCCA Environmental Committee gives a big thank you for all those who helped with the Butterfly Garden clean up and planting on March 31st.

"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty." – President John F. Kennedy



INTERIM DEPUTY MAYOR OF EDUCATION AND INTERIM CHANCELLOR VISITS WARD 7

The HCCA Education Committee held its joint Penn Branch-Hillcrest meeting in April, bringing interim Deputy Mayor for Education Ahnna Smith and Interim Chancellor Amanda Alexander to an education roundtable. The topic was "Building an Education Pipeline that Grows a Talented Ward 7 Citizenry" and topics discussed included middle schools, equity, and both leaders' commitment to the agendas underway by their predecessors. Many thanks to everyone who turned out from our community! (see picture below)



Hillcrest Newsletter brings you the information of the community

HCCA Board

Karen Williams, President
Michelle Peete, First Vice President
Boyle Stuckey, Second Vice President
Yvonne Dupree, Secretary
Monica H. Evans, Treasurer
Kenneth Burke, Parliamentarian
Ruth V. Lewis, Chair, Communications
Jeanne Contardo, Chair, Education
Mary Ross, Chair, Environmental and Beautification
Sheila Brown, Chair, Fundraising
Philip Hammond, Chair, Membership
James Short, Chair, Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness
Michelle Phipps-Evans, Chair, Recreation


Hillcrest Community Civic Association
"Working together for a better community"
www.HillcrestDC.com
P.O. Box 30895, Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

Got Ideas!

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

Pay 2018 Dues

Make checks payable to HCCA
Send to: P.O. Box 30895
Washington, DC 20030
Or
www.hillcrestdc.com/hcca/paydues.html

Follow on Twitter @HillcrestWard7 and Facebook

Visit our website at: www.hillcrestdc.com

Join the conversation on our listserv:
Hillcrestdc@yahoo.com

PLACE
STAMP
HERE