



NEWSLETTER

HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 30895

Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

www.HillcrestDC.com

HillcrestDC@yahoogroups.com

Next Meeting: Saturday, June 2, 2007, 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.



Inside this issue:

Message from the President	2
Letter to the Community	2
Hillcrest News	3
Special Feature	3
New HCCA Members	4
Community Calendar for June	4

Comments?

Any comments or story ideas, please e-mail the newsletter editor, Michelle Phipps-Evans at hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com.

Father's Day

EMERGENCY PLANNING SPECIALIST

KIM MCCALL TO SPEAK IN JUNE

Kim McCall is an emergency planning specialist with the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) where her day-to-day functions include community outreach and education. McCall has made more than 100 emergency preparedness presentations to residents, businesses and community groups across the District.

McCall holds a bachelor's degree in mass communications from Hampton University. Her background includes 15 years in the fields of public policy and communications. Her former employers include the federal government, World Space Corporation and the United Methodist Women's Division. A Ward 5 resident, McCall is a native of Alabama. She has lived in the D.C. metro area since 1991, and enjoys swimming, jet skiing and playing basketball.

HSEMA provides coordination and support of the city's response to emergencies and disasters of all types, both natural and manmade. The agency is led by Acting Director Darrell Darnell who was appointed by Mayor Adrian Fenty a few months ago. He is expected to receive confirmation as director by the Council soon.

HSEMA's mission is to reduce the loss of life and property and to protect citizens and institutions from all hazards by operating and maintaining a comprehensive all-hazard community-based, state-of-the-art emergency management infrastructure. This is accomplished by developing plans and procedures to ensure emergency response and recovery capabilities for all emergencies and disasters; coordinating emergency resources for emergencies and disaster incidents; providing training for all emergency first responders, city employees and the public; conducting exercises; and coordinating all major special events and street closings.

Due to the Homeland Security, Risk Reduction, and Preparedness Act of 2006, the District now has a homeland security program within the city government structure. Hence, the name change from the D.C. Emergency Management Agency (DCEMA) to HSEMA. In carrying out its mission the agency works closely

Kim McCall (right) discusses emergency preparedness and go-kits.



(Continued on page 3)

Message from the President

As the Skyland Project continues to move forward and NCRC and the city turn over development rights to the Skyland Development Team, it is more important than ever that our community continues to work together, with one goal in mind, to ensure Skyland becomes the type of place we want to gather with our families and neighbors to shop, eat and socialize. It would also be especially nice if our project could also become a shining national model of the urban shopping complex.

While we don't all agree on all components of the proposed development, I hope we are willing to make some tradeoffs, so that we can all enjoy a higher quality shopping complex—one with national retail stores such as Target, shoe stores other than Payless, and sit down restaurants. We would also like to get pleasure from other amenities like green spaces, pedestrian walkways, and public meeting space. Wouldn't we all like to bring positive economic growth and employment opportunities to our community?

To support this type of vision, Skyland must meet population density and design criteria retailers are seeking. There are still many issues to be addressed before the final brick is laid. At this point our best promise of success is to keep the lines of communication open as this project is turned over to the

Skyland Development Team. We will continue to keep HCCA a part of the development team as this project nears completion. At the June HCCA meeting, the Skyland Development Team and our Council representatives will address the membership on the current developments at Skyland and to talk about their visit to the ICSC Convention in Las Vegas.

I would like to thank the NCRC team and Ted Risher in particular, for accomplishing what at some junctures seemed impossible, the acquisition of the Skyland site, and the assembling of a great development team. We appreciate NCRC's efforts to keep the community part of the process. We wish them all "much success" as they move on to other ventures.

It has taken many years of effort by many of our neighbors to get this project off the ground, but Skyland's future looks bright. Let's not let anything keep us from moving forward.

As promised, starting this month we are initiating a HCCA Councilmember Roundtable. Council Chair Vincent Gray; Councilmember-at-Large Kwame Brown; and Ward 7 Councilmember Yvette Alexander will address the membership on issues affecting our city and our ward at the end of every HCCA meeting starting at noon.

**Karen Lee Williams, President
Hillcrest Community Civic Association**

Letter to the community

Special thanks from Anne Beers Elementary School

Dear Ms. Williams,

It is with sincere gratitude that I render this letter of appreciation to your organization on behalf of the Anne Beers' family. Your gifts and acts of kindness have been more than we could have dreamed of. A genuine thank you is extended to every member of your organization. We truly appreciate the donations of recess play equipment, which were not only purchased for our students, but were delivered to the students at our school.

The students are so excited and appreciative of the items. We will have many fun-filled days as a result of the generous donations that your organization has provided. We also would like to share our thankfulness for the energy and efforts that were influential in urging Central Administration to repair or replace tattered and non-functioning boards in some of our classrooms. They

have responded and I am told that the boards will be replaced with white boards in the near future.

The Hillcrest Community Civic Associations' actions are truly appreciated not only by me and the staff but by every student on every grade level. You all have impacted our total program with the extension of your gift giving. It is encouraging to know that neighbors still care about the children of Beers and are willing to invest considerable efforts, funds and time into ensuring that education improves for them on all levels. The Beers family members look forward to our developing relationship and all that will be accomplished as a result. Again, thank you all for your gracious gifts and we anticipate many more future endeavors.



The students at Anne Beers play with the equipment.

With sincere appreciation,
Gwendolyn Payton, Principal
Anne Beers Elementary School

Hillcrest News

Community-wide clean up on Saturday, June 9—

The Hillcrest Community Civic Association's Environmental Committee, with Phil Hammond as manager, is sponsoring a Hillcrest community cleanup. Please meet at the East Washington Heights Baptist Church parking lot, Alabama Avenue @ Branch Avenue, SE, at 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 9. Bring your pick up stick, gloves and hoe (or other tool for reaching and tearing down posters). See you there.

The 14th Annual Hillcrest Garden Tour on Saturday, June 16, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.—

Join us in this annual event. Meet at the parking lot of East Washington Heights Baptist Church, 2220 Branch Ave., SE, (Branch and Alabama Ave., SE). Bus transportation will be provided as we visit gardens in several parts of Hillcrest. Refreshments will be provided at the end of the tour. Water will be provided along the way. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 day of event. You may purchase tickets one of three easy ways: 1. At the June 2 HCCA meeting; 2. Contact Mary Hammond: 582-3059 or Kathy Chamberlain: 581-8272. 3. Email your reservation to gardentour@HillcrestDC.com. Give your name, phone #, and how many tickets you will like to reserve.

Any Scrabble Players in the Neighborhood?

The Hillcrest Recreation Center is looking for Scrabble

Special Feature

Keeping Our Eyes on the Prize

By Howard Ways

As we enter another long summer in D.C., the redevelopment of the Skyland Shopping Center is heating up. The April ANC 7B meeting lasted nearly three hours as the National Capital Revitalization Corporation (NCRC) fielded questions from concerned residents. Chief concern among those attending was the inclusion of 440 rental housing units.

In May, ANC 7B initiated a small informal poll about the proposed housing on the HillcrestDC listserv to solicit resident input on the subject of housing:

- **Do you support the project with 440 housing units?**
- **If not, how many housing units are appropriate?**
- **Should there be any housing or should Skyland remain just a retail project?**

To date, none of the respondents to the poll supported housing at Skyland as it is currently proposed by NCRC. Although housing and traffic congestion seem

players to be part of a Scrabble Club. If you are interested in participating, please contact Orvin Wright, director of the recreation center to sign up. He can be reached at (202) 645-9200 or by e-mail at Orvin.Wright@dc.gov. If you have never played Scrabble before but like word games such as crossword puzzles, you will like this game. Learn about this intriguing pastime that helps build vocabulary and is an enjoyable leisure activity. Contact Linda Jackson at Jacksonlm@aol.com or by phone at (202) 584-3612 for more info.

Southeast Catholic School closes—Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, 1600 Morris Rd., SE, is closing its doors after 87 years of service to our community. There will be a reunion in its honor on **Saturday, June 30**, beginning with Mass at noon. We are asking everyone affiliated with the school to please be there, including former teachers and clergy. Bring family and friends.

MPD Seventh District Summer Youth Academy

The MPD-7D is encouraging applicants for its Summer Youth Academy (SYA), consisting of seven weeks of enriching reading, math and computer science and art classes. The academy works with 100 youth, ages 6-13. Field trips, swimming outings and sport activities are part of the weekly schedule. To introduce participants to other cultures and languages, we are providing classes in Spanish and sign language. SYA 2007 runs

(Continued on page 4)

Kim McCall I (Continued from page 1)

with other emergency response agencies including the Metropolitan Police Department, the D.C. Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, the D.C. Department of Health and other District and federal agencies, as well as major utility companies and nonprofit and volunteer organizations such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

to be the most pressing critical issues, the ANC is also concerned with other important aspects:

- The inclusion of retail space at a reduced rent for Local Small Businesses,
- Use of green building techniques to achieve a LEED Platinum rating, and
- Location of community office and meeting space.

ANC 7B will continue to solicit input from residents. Please share your thoughts by e-mail to ANC7B@pressroom.com or by letter to Ryland Methodist Church, 3200 "S" ST., SE, Washington, DC 20020.

HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
Washington, D.C. 20030-0895
P.O. Box 30895

Hillcrest news (Continued from page 3)

June 25 to Aug. 10, operating daily from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Applications are available at the 7D police station front desk at any time day. Please complete the parent/guardian portion and take the appli-

cation to your child's school for completion of requested information. A mandatory orientation is scheduled for June 8, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Garfield Elementary School , 2435 Alabama Ave., SE. Both parent/guardian and child must attend this orientation session.

Remember Dad



**HCCA WELCOMES
NEW MEMBERS**

- Dennis and Cynthia Jefferson 2055 36th St., SE

COMMUNITY CALENDAR FOR JUNE

2	10 a.m.	HCCA Meeting, Hillcrest Recreation Center 32 nd and Denver Streets, SE
4	7 p.m.	Friends of Francis Gregory Library Meeting Francis Gregory Library, 3660 Alabama Ave., SE
13	10 a.m.	Goodhope Marketplace Taskforce Meeting Goodhope Police Substation, 2800 blk Alabama Ave., SE
20	6 p.m.	PSA 606 Police/Community Meeting Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter, 3319 Alabama Ave., SE
21	7 p.m.	ANC 7B Monthly Meeting Ryland Epworth Methodist Church, 3200 "S" St., SE

PLEASE NOTE: The new mailing address for the Hillcrest Community Civic Association is:
HCCA
P.O. Box 30895
Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

Have you paid your dues for 2007? Your paid-through date is on the mailing label of this newsletter. If it is earlier than 2007, please send your payment now!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ ZIP code: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

New Member: _____ Renewal: _____

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

**Annual dues are only \$10 . Make check payable to the Hillcrest Community Civic Association
and mail to:
P.O. Box 30895
Washington, D.C. 20030-0895**