



# NEWSLETTER

HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 30895

Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

[www.HillcrestDC.com](http://www.HillcrestDC.com)

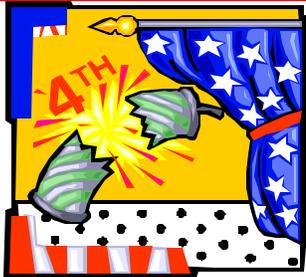
[HillcrestDC@yahoo.com](mailto:HillcrestDC@yahoo.com)

**Next Meeting:** Saturday, July 5, 2008, at 10 a.m.

**At the Hillcrest Recreation Center, Corner of Denver & 32<sup>nd</sup> Streets, SE**

*NOTE: Meetings are normally held the first Saturday of the month.*

## Council chairman Vincent C. Gray is July's speaker



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### Comments

Any comments or story ideas, please e-mail the newsletter editor,

**Michelle Phipps-Evans at [hillcrestdc\\_newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com)**

Council Chair Vincent C. Gray is probably one of Hillcrest's most famous residents and HCCA welcomes him as this month's speaker.

With his long-standing involvement and commitment to children, Chairman Gray has a solid reputation as a champion for young people and their families. His career in social services spans more than 30 years, beginning with his service as executive director of the D.C. Association for Retarded Citizens.

In 1991, Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly appointed him as the director of the Department of Human Services, where he oversaw the functions of a 7,000-person department and directed activities related to public health, social services, mental health services and health care finance.

In December 1994, he was named the first executive director of Covenant House Washington, an organization that serves homeless and at-risk youth.

Chairman Gray assumed the role of chairperson of the Ward 7 Democrats in May 2003. In the September 2004 primaries, he defeated the incumbent Ward 7 Councilmember, and went on to win the November general election with 91 percent of the vote. He was sworn-in as a member of Council of the District of Columbia on Jan. 2, 2005. Since then, Chairman Gray has championed causes for District residents east of the river and has introduced or co-sponsored more than 70 pieces of legislation. He also serves as the chair of the Council's Special Committee to Prevent Youth Violence.

On Sept. 12, 2006, Chairman Gray won the Democratic Primary election for the office of Chairman of Council of the District of Columbia with 57 percent of the vote.

Gray, a native Washingtonian, is a proud product of the District of Columbia public school system. He attended undergraduate and graduate school at George Washington University. His wife, Loretta, died July 1998. They have two children, Jonice Gray Tucker and Vincent Carlos Gray. His first grandchild, Austin, was born January 2005.



## Message from the President

### *Dear Neighbors,*

Summer has come to Hillcrest. This year the weather has caused problems for many of us. Roofs leaked, basements flooded, trees have fallen, the list goes on and on. Where do we find reasonable, reliable help? You could write about your experience. Go to HCCA's Web site, [www.hillcrestdc.com](http://www.hillcrestdc.com) and click on Recommended Businesses.

### Rules for Submission

- All recommendations must be based on first-hand experience.
- Recommendations will be listed with your name, your neighborhood and the recommendation date.
- No recommendation should be taken as a guarantee that the business will perform well.
- Recommendations will be accepted from any Washington, D.C., resident, but those from east of the Anacostia river are preferred because these businesses have already shown their willingness to work here.
- If you have a bad experience with a business, and want to share that information with your neighbors, consider posting it on the HillcrestDC list serve. If it is on the list of recommended businesses, the note "Neighbor reports bad experience with his business" will be added. If more than one bad experience is reported, the business will be removed from the list.

### How to submit

Submit your recommendations by sending a message to Kathy Chamberlain at [kathychamberlain@hillcrestdc.com](mailto:kathychamberlain@hillcrestdc.com). The subject of the message should be "Recommended Business." It will be a big help if you follow the format of the recommendations shown above. Be sure to include your name and neighborhood.

So far I have found a wonderful roofer, tree removal services and someone to repair my garage door. So if you need help, it's on the way at [www.hillcrestdc.com](http://www.hillcrestdc.com).

**Karen Lee Williams**  
President, HCCA

## Special Feature

### 15th annual Hillcrest garden tour a success

Eleven beautiful gardens, three home tours, proud homeowners and smiles everywhere. If you missed this year's Hillcrest Garden tour, you truly missed a treat. We received many kind comments from attendees about how much they enjoyed the tour, interacting with their neighbors and newfound friends in Hillcrest.



A very special thanks should go out to the host homeowners who dedicated a lot of time, effort and money to ensure their gardens were spectacular on June 14. Each addressed the tour groups, adding that all-important personal touch to the tour. Our guided tour format, and host homeowner involvement are two of the important features that set the Hillcrest tour apart from other garden tours in the city.

We had roughly 115 visitors participating, and who enjoyed the lovely pool-side reception. Please check out the Hillcrest Web site for photos. [http://www.hillcrestdc.com/pg\\_gardentour08a.htm](http://www.hillcrestdc.com/pg_gardentour08a.htm).



#### The garden tour committee this year included:

Alyce Foster, Jarrin Davis, Dan Olds, Bob Bush, Kathy Chamberlain, Carin Bigrigg, Rob Hejl, Mary Hammond, Phil Hammond, Boyle Stuckey, Karen Williams, Margaret Roberts, Carrie Thornhill, Richard Evans, Michael Yates, Donovan Anderson and Darin Glymph.



—Marvin Bowser  
Hillcrest Garden Tour Committee Chair  
Hillcrest Strategic Communication Chair

**Updates from the Recreation Center**

1. The Department of Parks and Recreation now requires that all participants have a DC One Card to enter any recreation center in the District. Cards may be obtained at Hillcrest recreation center. **Everyone is required to have a card to enter the center.**
2. **Distinguished Gentlemen Cookout** will be July 19. Any donations of food, drinks and funds will be accepted at the recreation center. Contact Orvin Wright.
3. **Free Dance classes** started June 24 for ages 7 and up, Tuesdays and Thursdays.
4. **Free Computer classes** for older adults and seniors every Saturday at 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.
5. **Tree planting** on July 31. Casey Trees will plant second round of trees from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
6. **Tennis classes** began June 25 for kids 6 and up. Adult classes cost \$75 for six weeks.

**Letter from Anne Beers**

Dear Hillcrest Community Civic Association,

Once again, as principal of Anne Beers Elementary School, I must express sincere appreciation on behalf of the entire Anne Beers staff, for the support and service that HCCA has rendered to the students.

We feel extremely blessed and honored to have you all assisting our students receive quality learning experiences. Throughout the school year, you have performed deeds that have benefited our students. Your donations made it possible for all qualified fourth-grade students to attend their year-end trip. It was heartwarming to know that all we had to do was state our need and the members of the HCCA would immediately respond to address our request.

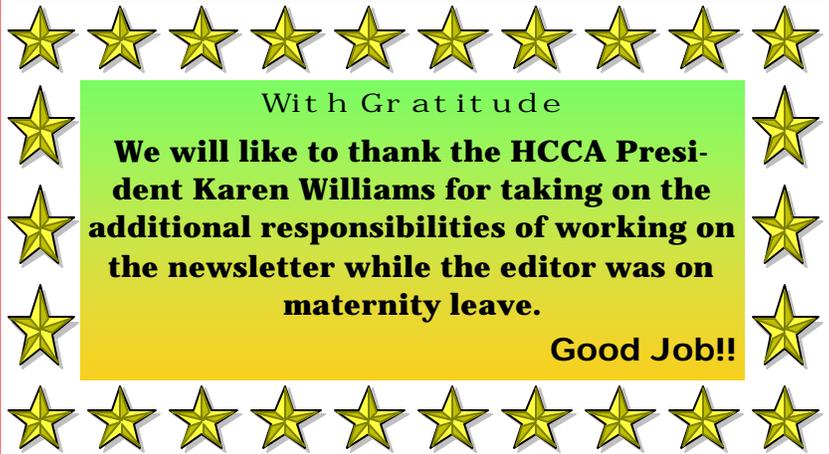
We are truly indebted to you and will continue to work arduously to ensure that our students demonstrate academically and socially the evidence of your efforts. Thank you does little to express our gratitude for your taking the time to help our students learn, grow and develop. HCCA is living proof that it takes a village to raise a child. Your invest-

**COMING in SEPTEMBER at  
a SITE NEAR YOU**



**FUN & LEARNING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

The festival is a major source of funding for HCCA education programs for our schools and youth. Please support it generously with your ads and patron listings in the souvenir booklet. Please consider vending and attending the festival.



*With Gratitude*

**We will like to thank the HCCA President Karen Williams for taking on the additional responsibilities of working on the newsletter while the editor was on maternity leave.**

**Good Job!!**

ment in Beers is truly an investment in developing our future.

We look forward to your continued partnership and we will continue to work diligently to make you proud of your investment in our school. Great schools are made by great people like you at the Hillcrest Community Civic Association. If there is ever anything that the staff and students of Beers are able to do for the Hillcrest Community Civic Association, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Gwendolyn Payton, Principal

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HILLCREST News and Updates, from page 3

**Nominations Sought**—The D.C. Federation of Civic Associations (DCFCA) is seeking nominations for honorees at its 78th annual awards celebration and luncheon on Oct. 25, 2008. DCFCA is asking the HCCA to submit the name of one person to be recognized as a *Grass Roots Honoree*, a person who has been helpful in carrying out community

projects. Another honor will go to the Mother and Father of the Year from each association. Each association should submit names of local mothers and fathers with exceptional accomplishments. All nominations should be mailed to: **Rev. William Bynum, Luncheon Co-Chair, DCFCA, 123 15th St., NE, Washington, DC 20002.** It should not be received any later than Aug. 31, 2008. Any questions or concerns, call Rev. Bynum at (202) 543-4216.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR FOR JULY

5	10 a.m.	HCCA Meeting, Hillcrest Recreation Center 32nd and Denver Streets, SE
7	7 p.m.	Friends of Francis Gregory Library Meeting Francis Gregory Library, 3660 Alabama Ave., SE
9	10 a.m.	Goodhope Marketplace Taskforce Meeting Goodhope Police Substation, 2800 blk Alabama Ave., SE
16	6 p.m.	PSA 606 Police/Community Meeting Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter, 3319 Alabama Ave., SE
17	7 p.m.	ANC 7B Monthly Meeting Ryland Epworth 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 2008? Your paid-through date is on the mailing label of this newsletter. If it is earlier than 2008, 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:**

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