



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

The Hillcrest Newsletter

July 2012

Jesús Aguirre is this Month's Speaker

The HCCA is pleased to welcome Director Jesús Aguirre from the District Department of Parks and Recreation at the monthly meeting on Saturday, July 7, at 10 a.m.



Prior to joining DPR, Aguirre served as director of School Operations for the District of Columbia Public Schools.

He began his professional career

as a middle school science teacher in Los Angeles. He has managed various programs for a national nonprofit as well as for a small book publisher. Prior to joining DCPS, Aguirre co-founded and operated one of the first charter schools in Arizona that serves under-privileged students in Phoenix.

Aguirre holds a bachelor of arts from the University of Texas at Austin and a Masters in Business Administration from the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. He now resides in Washington, D.C.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2	President's Message
2	Hillcrest Announcements
3	Calendar of Events

HILLCREST HAS A NEW LIBRARY



Mayor Vincent C. Gray (middle) cuts the ceremonial ribbon as Ward 7 Councilmember Yvette Alexander and Miles Steele, the president of the Friends of Francis Gregory, help out. They are flanked by a boy scout and children in a summer camp hosted by the YMCA of Metropolitan Washington. Photo by Claryce Handy

On June 19, 2012, Mayor Vincent C. Gray joined Councilmembers Yvette Alexander and Tommy Wells and the D.C. Public Library's Chief Librarian Ginnie Cooper at the ribbon cutting ceremony of the long-awaited Francis A. Gregory Library at 3660 Alabama Ave., SE. The new library opening attracted several Hillcrest residents, including the civic association's president and several board members. It features about 80,000 books, DVDs and other materials; has separate reading areas for adults, teens and children; 32 public access computers with free Wi-Fi Internet access; comfortable seating for 200 customers; parking for 14 vehicles; meeting rooms, public art and more.

General membership meeting is Saturday, July 7, 2012, 10 a.m., at the Hillcrest Recreation Center on the corner of Denver & 32nd Streets, SE.

Note: Meetings are held the first Saturday of the month.

Hillcrest Announcements

A Successful Day in Hillcrest



The Hillcrest Community Civic Association (HCCA), the Metropolitan Police Department and the Department of Parks and Recreation would like to thank the members of the community for attending the first annual Hillcrest Day on June 23. The day was perfect for the outdoor activities such as face painting, the clown performances, the moon bounce, the Department of Fire and EMS's giant slide, the putting green, the free food, drinks, snow cone and popcorn. Inside the building, visitors were treated to arts and craft, line dancing and other fun indoor activities. Besides Ward 7's Councilmember Yvette Alexander, Ward 4's Councilmember Muriel Bowser and Ward 2's Councilmember Jack Evans, the day saw several political candidates vying for seats on the Council of the District of Columbia. June 23 also marked a day for giving back when the HCCA offered a different experience for the 19th annual garden tour by renovating the gardens of two senior residents, and showcasing the beautiful end results. See the photos on the website at <http://www.hillcrestdc.com/gtour2012.htm> 

Crime Safety Tips

The following safety tips are being shared with members of the community from the Metropolitan Police Department.

1. Stolen Auto—Lock all doors; and use anti-theft device (club, alarm); park in well lit/populated areas.
2. Robbery—Pedestrians should avoid distractions to include talking on cell phones, texting and listening to iPods. When approached, do not fight back, just create dead weight. With purses and bags, try to wear across body and try to reduce

The President's Message

Dear Neighbors:

June was an exciting month for the HCCA. We started the month with a wonderful open forum where our membership had the opportunity to express their concerns and interests. Then, the Friends of Francis A. Gregory Library had a wonderful jazz concert. I really enjoyed myself. This was followed by the ribbon cutting ceremony for our wonderful new Francis Gregory Library. That place is awesome! I would like to thank all those who worked so diligently to bring Hillcrest such a marvelous library (especially you, Miles Steele).

On Saturday, June 23, 2012, Hillcrest went all out. Marvin Bowser and his committee—Kathy Chamberlain, John Johnson and Tom Beach—gave us a modified but wonderful garden tour. Thank you Marvin! This was followed by Hillcrest Day. I never imagined an idea could blossom so wonderfully and so quickly. Once Earl decided he would help his wife out and chair the Hillcrest Day committee, he was off to the races. (All those years I was talking about Earl and he was never visible. You thought I was making him up, didn't you? But you know who he is now, don't you?)

Anyway, Earl and his committee—Mary Ross, Robert Jordan, Michelle Peete, Terrance Peete, Tammy Mitchell, Yvonne Bing, Lisa Shaw, Officer Andre' Persaud, and HCCA's fabulous fund raising chair Shelia Brown—pulled it all together. If I missed someone, I apologize. Earl is in Boston at his aunt's funeral and not available to proofread my article this month. It was a wonderful day with free food and events and activities for everyone. If you missed it, fear not! Earl and his committee got such satisfaction from producing such a successful event, I heard them talking about making it an annual celebration. Let's pray on it!

So neighbors, if you want your association to continue to be more, you need to step up like Earl did. HCCA's potential is limited only by our resources, and our greatest resource is you, neighbor!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Earl", written in a cursive style.

contents based on intended travel.

3. Burglary—Request a home safety inspection from PSA official. Remove items from backyards and secure window air-conditioning units. Label garbage receptacles with markers (using your street number and name).
4. Assault with Deadly Weapon—Attempt to resolve conflicts verbally. Walk away if escalation occurs. If you feel your life is in danger, get to a safe place and report to the MPD.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

PLACE: HILLCREST RECREATION CENTER, 32ND & DENVER ST. SE

TIME: SATURDAY, JULY 7, FROM 10 A.M. TO NOON

FRIENDS OF FRANCIS A. GREGORY LIBRARY MEETING

PLACE: FRANCIS GREGORY LIBRARY, 3660 ALABAMA AVE., SE

TIME: MONDAY, JULY 9, 7 P.M.

GOOD HOPE MARKET PLACE TASKFORCE MEETING

PLACE: GOOD HOPE MARKET PLACE POLICE SUBSTATION, 2800 BLOCK ALABAMA AVE., SE

TIME: WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 10-11 A.M.

PSA 606 POLICE COMMUNITY MEETING

PLACE: EAST WASHINGTON HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH, 2220 BRANCH AVE., SE

TIME: WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 6 P.M. TO 7 P.M.

ANC 7B MONTHLY MEETING

PLACE: RYLAND METHODIST CHURCH, 3200 S ST., SE

TIME: THURSDAY, JULY 19, 7 P.M.-9 P.M.

UPCOMING WORKSHOP:

The HCCA is exploring the possibility of hosting a communications workshop during an upcoming meeting. The HCCA Communications Committee is interested in what will interest you specifically. What do you want to know about the art and science of communications? How does it work? How do you approach different constituencies and the media? What about advocacy?

E-mail your interests and needs to the Communications Chair at hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com by Aug. 3.

Got Ideas????

Please email any ideas or articles for the newsletter by the 15th of the month to the editor, Michelle Phipps-Evans, at hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com.

Or follow on Twitter @HillcrestWard7 or write it on the Facebook wall.

THE ENLIGHTENED ENVIRONMENTALIST

HILLCREST ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE'S SPRING CLEAN UP

On May 19, 2012, members of the HCCA Environmental Committee and Friends of the Hillcrest Community conducted its 2012 Annual Spring Cleanup. Volunteers signed in at 8 a.m. at the East Washington Heights Baptist Church. Officer Andre Persaud was in class, so he made arrangements for an officer to join us. We had very good participation with 12 volunteers joining us for the public space clean-ups and 9 volunteers had initially signed up to clean their own personal streets.

At the conclusion of the clean-up, as before, Elise Nichols, manager of the Washington Senior Wellness Center offered the use of the parking lot for our picnic. She could not join us, so she designated Ms. Miner to be her contact. She was very accommodating. We had a great time. Ruth Lewis used her culinary skills and grilled tasty hamburgers and hot dogs for us.

The event was a total success; however, it would not have been without the help of the following participants: Ms. Nichols and Ms. Miner for their hospitality; Department of Public Works Supervisor Earl Simpson for his resources, bags and crew, who picked up the clean-up debris; and, a special thank you to the following.

Ruth V. Lewis, Kenneth Burke, Mary Hammond, Carolyn Ray, Janet Keith, Alvin Owens, Rita Lowery, James Perkins, David Kirkpatrick, Mary Ross, Robert Jordan and Andre Persaud.

Additionally, the following residents cleaned their personal streets: Robin Marlin, Kathy Chamberlain, Gloria Logan, Nancy Harris, Earl Williams, Boyle Stuckey, Michelle Phipps-Evans, Anita Gonzales-Evans and Sherice Muhammad.

Special attention was given to the property at 3605 Suitland Road, SE, with its debris in the rear yard.

As a matter of information, property owners who allow grass and weeds to grow on their property higher than 10 inches can be FINED. **VIOLATIONS SHOULD BE REPORTED TO (202) 442-9557. ☹**

**Phillip Hammond
Coordinator**

Fourth of July Parade

The HCCA will participate in the annual Palisades community July 4 parade as part of the ongoing neighborhood partnership.

We will line up at 10 a.m. at the same location (corner of Whitehaven Pkwy and MacArthur Blvd, NW). The parade typically lasts just about two hours. For more information, contact Robin Marlin at rrmarlin@verizon.net

Please come join in the fun, food, fellowship, and the partnership.



Happy July 4th

The HCCA Newsletter

A publication by the Hillcrest Community Civic Association

The Hillcrest Community Civic Association promotes the welfare of our neighborhood. Our purpose is simple--to voice our concerns to government officials, businesses, and residents to ensure the best possible living environment in the Ward 7 neighborhood of Hillcrest.

HCCA Board

Karen Williams, President
Kathy Chamberlain, 1st VP
Boyle Stuckey, 2nd VP
Yvonne Dupree, Record. Secretary
Monica Evans, Treasurer
Kenneth Burke, Parliamentarian
John Hawkins, Chaplain
Mary Ross, Chair, Environmental
David Kirkpatrick, Chair, Public Safety
Michelle P. Evans, Chair, Communications
Veronica Davis, Chair, Street, Traffic, Transportation
Sheila Brown, Chair, Fundraising
Yvonne Burke, Chair, Hospitality

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES FOR 2012? *Your paid-through date is on the mailing label of this news-letter. If it is earlier than 2012, please send your payment now.*

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Amount: _____

E-Mail: _____ Cash Check



Hillcrest Community Civic Association

Hillcrest Community Civic Association

P.O. Box 30895

Washington, D.C. 20030-0895