



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

September 2015

HILLCREST NEWSLETTER

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GUEST SPEAKER: MELINDA M. BOLLING, DIRECTOR OF DCRA



Melinda M. Bolling was confirmed Director for the DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs ("DCRA") on July 14, 2015. In this role, Ms. Bolling is responsible for managing an agency that protects the health, safety, economic interests and quality of life of District of Columbia residents, businesses and visitors by issuing licenses and permits, conducting inspections, enforcing building, housing and safety codes, regulating land use and development and advocating for and educating consumers.

Previously, Ms. Bolling served as DCRA's General Counsel where she managed the agency's legal staff in both prosecutorial and defensive litigation before administrative and judicial forums in the District of Columbia. As General Counsel, Ms. Bolling oversaw all legal matters affecting the agency, including: 1) drafting legislation, regulations and Council testimony; 2) negotiating and drafting memoranda of understanding with other District of Columbia agencies; 3) participating in meetings with Council members, staff and officials in the Executive Office of the Mayor; 4) assisting and advising DCRA's senior management team on various agency legal issues; and 5) managing the agency's handling of risk management issues and FOIA requests.

Earlier in her legal career, Ms. Bolling worked for both federal and state/municipal agencies and in private practice. She earned her undergraduate degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology ("Georgia Tech") and her law degree from the Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law. She resides in Hillcrest with her husband, daughter and son.

HILLCREST HAPPENINGS!

Join Penn Branch resident Jim Byers as he hosts his 11th walking tour with Cultural Tourism DC of our beloved Hillcrest-Penn Branch-Randle Highlands and Dupont Park—the East Washington Heights neighborhoods. The free tour, which will explore the history of our rich neighborhoods, will be on Sunday, September 20th from 10 to noon, starting at the Penn Branch Shopping Center, 3202 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE.

You must register. Visit here <https://www.culturaltourismdc.org/portal/walkingtown-dc1>

Check the link on Facebook for more info. <https://www.facebook.com/events/1608329349448186/>

This spring, Jim has offered to give HCCA residents an exclusive walking tour in lieu of the monthly speaker for an upcoming meeting. Stay tuned for details.

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- Special points of interest:**
- Hillcrest Community Civic Association Meeting
Hillcrest Recreation Center
32nd and Denver St., SE
Saturday, September 5, 2015
10:30 AM to 12:30 PM
 - PSA 606 Police Community Meeting
East Washington Heights Baptist Church
2200 Branch Ave., SE
Wednesday, September 16, 6 PM
 - ANC 7B Monthly Meeting
Ryland Methodist Church
3200 S St., SE
Thursday, September 17, 7 PM

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Greetings Hillcrest neighbors,

Here we are--entering the month of September. This is a perfect opportunity for the HCCA co-presidents to say, thank you. Both Boyle Stuckey and I have been happy to serve the community as your co-presidents. Your support and your advice have been welcomed and valued.

We hope you are enjoying some of the changes we have been making with the flow of our meetings. And similar to most HCCA meetings in the past, we have been able to bring city leaders to address several of your concerns. Feel free to let us know of other speakers you will like to hear from at a meeting. Of course we are not finished in our fight. We want to keep our Hillcrest concerns in the forefront of the District's lead-

ership to ensure they work with us in reaching our goals.

To continue doing this, we need your support. We still need a few good men and women to step up to help the civic association continue along its path toward greatness. Two or three people cannot do the job alone. We require more of an effort that brings together all members of our community with their varied backgrounds. Only then can we say that we are working as one.

We continue to look forward to working with you and to leading the association with your help.

Sincerely,
Michelle Phipps-Evans
Boyle Stuckey
Co-Presidents

A HILLCREST MYTH DISPELLED

Many of us residing in Hillcrest have heard our neighbors say: "Not many children live here anymore." One resident who moved into Hillcrest as a young child nearly 50 years ago recalls that seemingly there were children everywhere. But these children have grown up and most have moved away. But are there many children in today's Hillcrest?

A recent random and nonscientific search of several blocks in Hillcrest revealed an interesting story. The area studied was the 2000, 2100, and 2200 blocks of 31st Place, 32nd Street, and 32nd Place and the adjacent letter streets of "V" Place, "W" Place, and "W" Street. The surveyor was a resident of Hillcrest and what he found was that there were at least 15 homes in this section in which there were children between the ages of 5 and 17.

The surveyor started out knowing only a few homes in which there were young children. But in these homes he raised this question to the parents: "Are there other houses in which you know children are living?"

Quite often the parents directed the inquirer to other homes within the same block. Being surprised at the affirmative responses, the researcher then raised the question: "Why do we not know there are so many children living here?"

The surveyed parents came up with several good reasons why the community was unaware of the existence of some of our children. The explanation most often given was: "You don't see them." Some of the parents went on to explain that many of today's children are occupied by electronic devices in their homes. A further explanation is that the parents often transport them to extracurricular activities. (Yet another factor is that our Hillcrest children do not all attend the same schools--in fact their schools are scattered throughout the city.)

As older residents, we may be missing out on something. A village in which all of the community is of the same age is not a complete village. Our children need the friendship of mature people and we older adults need the vitality that comes from association with children.



ANNUAL POSTER CONTEST SUCCESSFUL

Continuing action on its belief that the best way to ensure that our city will have people in the future who value, protect and care for the flora and fauna of the community is to educate the children and youth of today. The Hillcrest Community Civic Association's Environmental Committee held its annual poster contest in August.

Residents of Hillcrest, 5 to 17 years old, were invited to illustrate on 14"by 17" poster board the benefits to the community of the bat, black snake, bumble bee, or honey bee. A further requirement was to accompany the illustration with a short written statement of these benefits.

Participants had the option of researching and creating their posters independently or coming to the annual poster party where information on the subjects and all poster materials were provided.

Nineteen young Hillcresters took up the challenge and

submitted their works for judging. Based on the ages of those making submissions, the committee determined that posters would be judged in the following age categories: 5 years old, 6 years old, 9 – 10 years old, and 12 – 14 years old.

After lengthy and careful consideration the following creators were adjudged winners:

Audrey Contardo, Age 5
Charlie Compagnucci, Age 6
Joseph Compagnucci, Age 9
Illiana Gonzales-Evans, Age 14

The Environmental Committee views all the participants and their parents as **WINNERS!** The committee sends their way heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for the interest shown in our environment.

All posters will be on display at the September meeting of the Hillcrest Community Civic Association.

4TH ANNUAL HILLCREST DAY
Saturday, October 17, 11:00am-4:00pm
Hillcrest Rec Center
3100 Denver St. SE, Washington, DC 20020



Moonbounce
Smalley the Clown
Arts & Crafts
Food & Drinks
Fire Truck Slide
Line Dancing
Basketball Tournament
Rock Climbing
Raffle & Prizes
Pumpkin Decorating
And Much More...

Soul, Jazz & Dance
Music
By
TAMARA WELLONS


 "Working Together for a Better Community"

HILLCREST HAPPENINGS Continued...

Annual Fall Clean-up on September 19th

Come to the usual meeting place at 8:00am, the parking lot of East Washington Heights Baptist Church at the corner of Branch and Alabama Avenues to receive a pickup stick, bags, and assigned clean up area.

Relax and socialize with your neighbors afterward at the picnic following the Clean-up.

The Environmental and Beautification Committee

HCCA Board

Michelle Phipps-Evans, First Vice President
Boyle Stuckey, Second Vice President
Deborah Johnson, Secretary
Monica H. Evans, Treasurer
Kenneth Burke, Parliamentarian
A. Frank Anderson, Chaplain
Ruth V. Lewis, Chair, Communications
Jeanne Contardo, Chair, Education and Recreation
Mary Ross, Chair, Environmental and Beautification
Michelle Peete, Chair, Fundraising
Philip Hammond, Chair, Membership
James Perkins, Jr., Chair, Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness
Linwood Robinson, Chair, Streets, Traffic and Transportation

Happy Labor Day

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

(United States Department of Labor)



Have you paid your dues for 2015?

Your paid through date is on the mailing label of this newsletter. If the date is earlier than 2015, please send your payment now. The cost is \$15.00/year, \$24.00 for 2 years. Make check payable to HCCA and send to P.O. Box 30895, Washington, DC 20030 or you can pay by credit card at:

www.hillcrestdc.com/paydues.htm

Got Ideas!

Please email any ideas or articles for the newsletter by the 15th of the month to hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com

Follow on Twitter @HillcrestWard7 or write on the Facebook Wall, All Over Hillcrest



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